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DEPORTED WEST BANK MAYORS INTERVIEWED ON U.S., EUROPEAN TOUR

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 2 Jul 80 p 19

[Interview with Fahd al-Qawasimah, Hebron Mayor, and Muhammad Mulhim, Halhul Mayor, by 'Adnan Nasrawin; "Fahd al-Qawasimah to AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM: Our Mission In Paris Has Been Very Successful; 40,000 Palestinians Have Entered Jail Since 1967"]

[Text] Paris--Fahd al-Qawasimah, the mayor of Habron, and Muhammad Mulhim, the mayor of Halhul, who were deported from the occupied West Bank last week have visited Paris within a tour they are making in the European countries and the United States.

AL-RA'Y AL-AMM has had this interview with al-Qawasimah and Mulhim during their stay in Paris:

[Question] What is the purpose of your tour in the international capitals?

[Answer] Al-Qawasimah: We have visited so far the United States, Britain, the Netherlands and Switzerland and we will continue our tour to Vienna to meet with Austrian Chancellor Kreisky. The aim of our tour is to ask the officials of these countries to exert pressure on the Israeli government to repatriate us and also to familiarize the world public opinion with the actual conditions of oppression to which the Arab citizens in the occupied terrorists are subjected by the Israeli military rule authorities.

I must point out here that our visit to Paris has been very successful, that we have met with the head of the Middle East Bureau in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and have assured him that all the citizens in the occupied Arab territories stress the need for France's recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the need for France to play an effective role in realizing just and comprehensive peace for the area. We have also impressed upon the French official the need for France to perform its role with the Israeli government to repatriate us.

We have met during our visit to Paris with Francois (Mitterrand), the chairman of the French Socialist Party; Georges (Marchais), the chairman of the French Communist Party; and (Couv de Mourphille), a Gaullist leader and the chairman of the French Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee. They have all expressed their full sympathy for the cause of the Palestinian people who are demanding the restoration of their legitimate rights to their homeland.

Muhammad Mulhim: We have come to Paris, as my colleague Fahd al-Qawasimah has said, to meet with the French officials. But at the same time, we have come to address the French public opinion through its press. The fact is that the French public opinion has begun to respond to the Palestinian right. We are prepared to come back at any time our French friends invite us so as to tell and reveal to them the enormity of the conditions in which the Palestinian people live under the Zionist occupation.

[Question] What is the position of the mayors of the Bank and of the Strip toward the PLO?

[Answer] Al-Qawasimah: It must be noted first that the number of mayors in the occupied West Bank is 24 mayors and that there are four municipalities in the Gaza Strip. I say with utter strength and firmness that all the Palestinian people under occupation support the PLO which we consider our sole legitimate representative. We have proven this more than once when we had official documents signed by all the official establishments, associations, unions, chambers of commerce and other organizations functioning officially in the occupied territories and then had the documents transmitted to the United Nations. We also conveyed the documents to the consuls present in Jerusalem, including the French consul who, I believe, was a sincere human being who did actually transmit the documents to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. You will find that these documents are signed by me, by my colleague Muhammad Mulhim and by all the mayors in the Bank and the Strip.

[Question] What is the status and what are the activities of the Palestinian National Front in the occupied Arab territories?

[Answer] Muhammad Mulhim: When al-Sadat launched his evil initiative by visiting Israel--an initiative which later led to the Camp David negotiations and the proposed self-rule--the official organizations and national personalities in the occupied Arab territories rallied to call for holding national conferences. One of those conferences was the Jerusalem conference which declared openly its rejection of Camp David and of self-rule and its adherence to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to setting up their independent Palestinian state. In all honesty, all the municipal and village councils, unions, chambers of commerce and religious establishments were represented in this conference from which emanated the

National Guidance Committee to follow up the conference resolution on mobilizing the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories in order to attain their national goals. This committee has considered itself an arm of the PLO and not an alternative to it, as is evident in all of the committee's actions up to this moment. I and Al-Qawasimah have been members of this committee. All the committee's actions and resolutions have been public and have been heard in all the world, thus leaving no place for doubt as to the aspiration of our people in the occupied territories to realize their goals.

[Question] Why were you deported from the occupied territories to Lebanon?

[Answer] Muhammad Mulhim: We were not consulted on the matter. Had we been consulted, we would have chosen to stay in our homeland. Moreover, if all the Palestinians in Lebanon were consulted, they would choose to return to their homeland, even if given Lebanon, Syria and the entire Arab homeland. There is nothing sweeter to their hearts than the day of their repatriation. We will acknowledge with gratitude and forever the good deed of all the Arab brothers who have received us and supported us in our tragedy outside the homeland.

[Question] Can you tell us about the arrest and intimidation campaigns to which the Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories are subjected? And what is the purpose of your deportation?

[Answer] Al-Qawasimah: The number of detainees incarcerated in Israeli prisons at present is more than 5,000 Palestinians and Arabs because there are prisoners from Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and other countries--prisoners who have fought alongside the Palestinian people and have been arrested.

As for the number of people who have entered the Israeli prison since 1967, this number exceeds 40,000 Palestinians--i.e. more than 10 percent of the forces qualified [sic] to enter prison. The rest are on their way.

As for the purpose behind our deportation, it means deportation or intimidation of all the national elements. However, I want to stress that even if only a single Palestinian remains in the occupied Arab territories he will continue to struggle until he achieves his rights to self-determination and to setting up a Palestinian state. They are wrong if they think that they will devoid the land of its national elements by deporting two mayors. We learn patriotism from our children and I will tell you this story which confirms what I am saying: In one of the demonstrations staged in Hebron, the picture of my 15-year old daughter was taken while she was hurling stones at the occupation troops. The picture was taken by the Israeli intelligence. The military ruler confronted me a few days later with the picture and I told him: This is all our people, not only my daughter,

stoning the occupation soldiers. When I returned home, I asked my daughter about the picture, just to make sure: Is it true that you hurled stones at the soldiers? I did not want to punish her. However, she did not give me a decisive answer and then she went to her mother and told her verbatim: If my father fears for his position as the mayor, then I don't want him to come to bail me when I get jailed. Believe me that I went to apoligize to my daughter when my wife told me of this because it is not what I had meant. This is the reality of our Palestinian people with all their factions in the occupied Arab territories.

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DETAILS OF LATEST PALESTINIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS BARED

Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 18 Jun 80 p 10

/Article: "AL-WATAN Exclusively Publishes Verbatim Text of the Palestinian National Congress Meeting"/

/Text/ AL-WATAN has obtained the verbatim text of the Palestinian National Congress meeting held in Damascus on the evening of 7 June 1980 from high level Palestinian leadership sources. AL-WATAN is anxious to avoid mentioning some of the special secret resolutions bearing on military aspects, lest the revolution's adversaries and enemies benefit from them. Here is the text:

At the beginning of the session, agreement was given to the following agenda:

The activity of the Executive Committee, which will be broken down into:

A. The visit to India. B. The Tripoli meeting of the Perseverance and Steadfastness Front. C. The meeting of the Islamic state foreign ministers in Islamabad. D. The visit to Amman. E. The National Congress delegation visit to Europe.

The situation in the occupied territories.

The situation in Lebanon.

The 15th session of the National Congress.

Analysis and general discussion of political conditions in the region and the world.

Miscellaneous

1. Popular organizations in the Libyan jamahiriyah.

2. The detentions in Jordan.

'Abd-al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar spoke, stating: "India's visit to the organization delegation came after Indian recognition of us, and the visit concerned various levels--the minister of foreign affairs, the prime minister, and other officials. One can summarize the Indian position on international and Arab issues as follows:

"India's position as regards Afghanistan is concentrated on concern for relations with the Soviet Union and Afghanistan, and they said 'We cannot participate in the American game, since the issue must be dealt with by another method, a sound friendly method.' As far as the Palestine cause goes, India's position fully supported the national rights of the Palestinian people and agreed on the formation of a committee of cooperation in more than one cultural and non-cultural field."

He went on, "The committee held its first meeting directly after the visit. Representing the organization was Dr Sidqi al-Dajani, and the visit really was distinguished from the ordinary by two issues concerning India, which affect the Indian position on the subject:

"1. Yasir 'Arafat eliminated a great obstacle in Indira Gandhi's way when he managed to convince a prominent Islamic leader in India to desist from his enmity toward Indira and stop making attacks against her and defaming her.

"2. The economic situation. Regarding this point, 'Arafat got in touch with Saudi Arabia and the Gulf and guaranteed India's oil requirements at reasonable prices; in exchange for this, there is this positive Indian position regarding the Liberation Organization."

Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani then spoke about the visit to India, stating "We discussed the situation in Lebanon and Afghanistan, the Islamic conference, nonalignment, the occupied territories, economic cooperation between India and the Arabs and the third world, and cultural cooperation. The most important thing achieved in India was the oil question, as our brother Abu Hayzar said."

Muhsin Abu Mayzar: Let us now move on to the second point, which is the Steadfastness and Perseverance Front.

Abu 'Ammar: At the front meeting, al-Qadhdhafi stated that he had no relationship with the revolutionary committees and that he would hold anyone bearing responsibility for this activity to account. However, we were again surprised when al-Qadhdhafi asked 200 teachers to give their agreement to the political committees or be banished.

The FATH Conference

Abu 'Ammar: The fact that the conference had not been held for 9 years was due to the difficult circumstances of the revolution, which you well

know, and the diminution of the conference, since there are about 200 staff members who were prevented from attending because of circumstances outside our will. In brief, the atmosphere was democratic, issues were presented unhesitantly, from Abu al-Sa'id's activities to the military activities, and I recognize that there was supposed to have been guided democracy and not negligent democracy. The resolutions and the political program were issued, and what was authorized was the text issued in FALASTIN AL-THAWRAH. What was issued in the newspaper AL-LIWA' was not carefully edited. The resolutions of the National Congress complemented FATH's premises and did not conflict with what was issued up to the third congress.

He said, "The bylaws have been modified on behalf of the powers of the Revolutionary Council, oversight, periodic meetings and so forth. Agreement has been reached on the attendance of six observers from popular organizations to attend congress meetings. I have been appointed a general commander of the congress and for the first time 76 countries attended our conference and we stressed that our national unity is our national demand."

Muhsin Abu Mayzar made a statement of appreciation for FATH and the resolutions issued by it in the name of the Central Congress.

Abu Salih: Abu 'Ammar was the one who did the most to make conference succeed and honor various opinions, which is a characteristic for which he has always been noted.

On the Islamic Conference

Muhsin: The conference went beyond the cause, and everything going on in the area. We have made efforts to rectify the situation as far as our cause goes and we achieved some success, especially on Jerusalem, the occupied territories and the refusal to turn the organization of the Islamic Conference into a pulpit for the United States of America. Through our participation in the committees, we had influence on a large number of conference members, since everything was mobilized against Afghanistan on America's behalf.

We had reservations on the drafts of some resolutions, and Abu 'Ammar's visit to India had a negative effect on Zia-ol-Haqq, which was reflected in the conference.

Concerning the delegation of the Palestinian National Council to Europe (Khalid al-Hasan was absent from the session), discussion of this subject was postponed.

Emphasis was placed on not talking about political matters, and non-political ones, outside the Palestine National Congress resolutions.

2. Agreement was reached to hand the subject of the European delegation and the statements issued on that over to the Executive Committee.

3. While it was necessary to refer to this in the Central Council statement, the statement issued did not refer to the issue in any clause or word.

The Situation in the Occupied Territories

Abu 'Ammar: We talk a great deal and we do little as regards the occupied territories. We have received $76 million and have not been able to send that to our people. There are Arab countries which have not yet sent their commitments. As far as the situation in Lebanon goes, that is costing us a lot, especially the military aspect.

Bahjat Abu Gharibah (Abu Sami): There is a liquidation coming, not a settlement. The enemy is working with great speed to empty the occupied territories of Arab people. As far as what is being said about international support and international resolutions, they have a positive character but there is no road but the military solution. The Liberation Organization must be convinced, first, and the Arab countries second, of this matter.

Abu Riyad: There is a conspiracy,not a settlement. The attempts underway either by Europe or some Arab countries (which he named) do not go beyond the status of an operation to save Camp David. There is much evidence and also some people are acting as if the Palestine cause was a commodity they could deal in. Examples of that are what an Arab official stated, and his declaration "I can line up the Palestinians." Therefore one must stress and emphasize that no one whoever except the Liberation Organization may talk for the Palestinian people.

Regarding the situation in the Kingdom of Jordan, the stage is serious and the coming period will be the occasion for the crystallization of a plan which will constitute the common denominator for a Jordanian-Palestinian formula.

The secretary general of the Jordanian Communist Party, Fa'iq Warrad: I support the viewpoint of Bahjat Abu Gharibah; we cannot achieve any progress worth mentioning without confrontation.

Abu Hatim talked about the Aid Agency and said, "I recommend that the Arab countries and the Liberation Organization make the agency's payments, to eliminate this agency's dominance over the Palestinian people.

Abu 'Ammar: I object, because that means abandonment by other countries, especially the foreign ones, of support and aid for the cause.

Farhan Abu al-Hayja: We always make disorganized reactions which fall short of what is desired. We receive aid from Arab countries but we must not forget the masses. We have relied on the Arab People's Conference, though realizing that Arab action should be developed. Our activity must not be restricted to the official aspect--rather, our presence must be consecrated on the popular level.

Taysir Qab'ah: We must break out of the circle of illusions. We must be clear. It is necessary to stress national unity first and effective dynamic action secondly.

Abu Salih: We have an inflation in support from the world public opinion and a deficit in the Arab context. France's position, for example, is ahead of that of an Arab country concerned (he named it), and al-Sadat has wasted all the resources of the Arab nation, but al-Sadat is not alone. There are America's other Arabs. We have been flexible to the point where flexibility has become a burden on us, including the outbreak of disputes among us; we have been described as capitulationists, and the goal was to transfer the struggle within us. We are on the side of the Perseverance and Steadfastness Front and it is on our side, by virtue of interests, and we must cooperate in accordance with these interests in favor of the Arab situation. What is going on in Lebanon is an Arab act. There is the likelihood that "Begin" will resort to a military decision and the occupation of southern Lebanon if he comes to a dilemma. We must call a spade a spade and start with ourselves first. As far as the National Congress goes, we must be oriented toward a national unity in front form and if this occurs, the Palestinians will be able to provide half their budget domestically. We must produce political clarity. No one will respect us if we do not threaten America's interests in the region, since in either case the plot and the attack rising against us are continuing. That is, in spite of flexibility, why don't we use force, on grounds that force is the way toward a just peace, not diplomacy? There is no peace and the settlement which is being proposed is a clear process of capitulation.

Abu Salih continued: Attaining a Palestinian state, even on a square inch of land, will require force and many long years of struggle.

Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani talked about the future format for Arab action, the international situation, and the Zionist entity. He said, "The Palestinian leadership is considered by the international picture to be the most mature leadership and we have been told more than once on more than one occasion, 'You are the stronger for your maturity.'

"I am in favor of what our brothers said with precision on the need to draw up boundaries for our policies, but we must preserve this course, I mean political activity during the past years, and not content ourselves with slogans which are 30 years old. We are not proceeding toward the mirage of 'settlement'--examples of that are why is there a dispute between the United States and Europeans, why is there a dispute between China and the Soviet Union? There is the Arab card, the security of Europe is linked to the security of the area, and there are the Soviets and nonalignment. Europe is influenced by India's position. Since 1974 we have been in the international context, and diplomatic relations influence and are reflected on us positively. For 5 years the European position has been evolving and has come around to support the rights of the Palestinian

people, and America is boycotting the European countries. There is a danger in this role and we must repel it, on grounds that America has monopolized dealings with the situation in the region since 1977 and wants to continue doing so."

At the end of the meeting, agreement was reached on:

Holding the National Congress in the early part of the middle of next month.

Meeting the secretary generals (Saturday 14 June in the capital of Syria).

Preparatory meetings to guarantee the success of the session of the Palestine National Congress, especially as regards the issue of national unity.

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AL-FAHUM DISCUSSES PALESTINIAN MEETINGS, EUROPEAN INITIATIVE

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 29 Jun 80 p 17

[Interview with Khalid al-Fahum, Chairman of Palestinian National Council, by Khalil al-Taqi: "Council's Forthcoming Session Will be Palestinian National Unity Session; Greater Powers for PLO Council and Unionist Measures for Resistance Factions"]

[Text] Damascus--In the wake of its latest meeting in Damascus, the Palestinian Central Council--which includes the Palestinian resistance movement leaders--decided that the 15th session of the Palestinian National Council will be held in Damascus on the 31st of next August. Political observers consider this session one of the most important sessions in view of the serious issues that it will discuss on the one hand and of the serious phase through which the Palestinian issue and the Arab nation are passing on the other hand.

It has become certain that a mini-committee representing the top-level Palestinian leaderships will meet at the beginning of the coming month of July to discuss the new developments concerning the Palestinian issue and to draw up a draft political statement to be presented to the next session of the National Council as a fundamental working paper for discussing and tackling the current issues, the new developments and the firm and principled positions of the PLO.

In an interview with AL-QABAS, Khalid al-Fahum, the Palestinian National Council chairman, has said that the forthcoming 15th session of the council will be one of the most important meetings and "I believe optimistically that it will be the session of Palestinian national unification because I hope that it will implement the organizational program approved by the 14th session and providing for the formation of a new executive committee in which all the resistance movement factions are represented. I also hope that the National Council will approve a proposal to strengthen the PLO Central Council and to give it more powers to enable it to perform its full role as a responsible leadership body in the organization."

Al-Fahum has also expressed the hope that the National Council will realize in its 15th session "the establishment of more Palestinian unionist organizations, especially in the military field, in addition to the organizations already set up in accordance with the resolutions and recommendations of the Palestinian National Council's 14th session which was held in Damascus at the beginning of 1979." Al-Fahum has added that he hopes that the Executive Committee which will be elected by the National Council will be able to exercise its work as a collective leadership capable of shouldering the responsibilities of action at all the levels of struggle.

Al-Fahum has also reviewed the most important issues which will be discussed by the 15th session of the Palestinian National Council and has said that they are embodied in:

A. The unified Palestinian position vis-a-vis the European movement or any international movement that may produce a new cover for the camp's [Camp David] agreements.

B. Strengthening and bolstering the relationship of fateful struggle with the pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front on the basis of bolstering and developing its agencies and its methods of work.

C. Relations with the Arab countries according to their positions vis-a-vis the Palestinian issue and toward the international movements concerning the issue.

D. The explosive situation inside the occupied homeland.

E. The conditions prevalent on the Lebanese arena.

Al-Fahum has also said that he believes that the council will emerge with a unified Palestinian position on all these issues.

Meetings of Palestinian Leaderships

The Palestinian National Council chairman has also discussed the outcome of the meetings held by the Palestinian leaderships in the past few weeks, saying: "These leaderships have held recently a number of meetings, the most important being the meeting held by the Central Council in Damascus at the beginning of this month. This meeting discussed a number of new developments concerning the Palestinian issue inside the occupied homeland and on both the Arab and international arenas. The meeting also discussed the convocation of the 15th session of the Palestinian National Council to achieve national unity and the importance of realizing unionist steps among the resistance movement factions in the military, financial and political spheres."

In this respect, the Central Council has decided to form a mini-committee including the chairman of the National Council and of the Executive Committee, the general secretaries of all the resistance movement factions and four members of the Central Council to be entrusted with making serious preparations for convocation of the 15th session of the Palestinian National Council. This committee did actually meet in the middle of June and it discussed all the political developments pertaining to the Palestinian issue, especially in the military and financial spheres, and decided on two important things:

1. Set the date for convocation of the 15th session of the Palestinian National Council as the first of next August in Damascus.

2. Form a mini-committee comprised of the chairman of the Executive Committee and of two committee members, the National Council chairman and the general secretaries of the resistance movement factions to discuss the new developments pertaining to the Palestinian issue according to the following bases:

A. Putting stress on ratification of the political and organizational programs approved by the 14th session of the Palestinian National Council.

B. Drawing up the furdamental broad lines of the political statement which will be presented to the next session of the Palestinian National Council and will deal with all the current issues.

C. Formulating practical visualizations for real unionist steps in all the spheres--steps liable to be developed to the maximum.

D. Formulating steps for military unity among the resistance movement factions and for controlling the violations so as to confront the danger present on the Lebanese arena.

E. Re-forming the Executive Committee in a manner that enables it to shoulder the responsibilities and to make the independent Palestinian decision through rallying the active organizations and forces behind it.

F. Studying development and expansion of the PLO Central Council.

Relations With Syria

Discussing the Syrian-Palestinian relations, al-Fahum has said:

The Syrian and Palestinian views are in agreement on the need to reassess fundamentally the strategy of the Arab action to confront the Zionist-U.S. plot that is aimed against the Arab nation and its central issue, namely the Palestinian issue. Through an evaluation of the situation with the

brothers in the Syrian leadership, there has been full agreement that the movements taking place for the realization of a political settlement in the area under the canopy of the imbalance between the Arabs on one hand and Zionism and imperialism on the other will lead to further concessions in favor of the enemy. Therefore, the need arises to reassess all the policies for confronting this situation in a manner that will guarantee creation of all the conditions that lead to enabling the Arab nation to regain its rights and defend its entity.

European Position

Al-Fahun added:

Within the framework of the study conducted with the officials in the Arab Syria on the situation in the area, the communique issued by the European summit was studied and analyzed in detail. As a result, the Palestinian and Syrian leaderships have become aware of the negative aspects of this communique. Ultimately, the communique has come as an attempt to beautify the Camp David accords and to lure some Arab countries. The communique also constitutes an outflanking of the Arab position in order to facilitate the success of the Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. negotiations. Consequently, the sum total of the principles and ideas contained in the communique--especially its reliance on resolution 242 which is rejected by the Arab nation that does not consider this resolution fit for the establishment of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace--has brought nothing new to the contents of the two Camp David accords, especially in regard to the firm national rights of the Arab Palestinian people and particularly their right to repatriation and to building their independent state of their liberated national soil. These rights have been recognized by the international community as firm and inalienable rights that can be subject to no prior condition. Moreover, the European communique has not recognized the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab Palestinian people. While acknowledging Israel's right to security and survival, the communique has given the Palestinian people conflicting and ambiguous words, using the Camp David language, especially in the phrases concerning the right to self-determination. The statement links the self-determination to appropriate measures within the framework of a comprehensive settlement and this is something that devoids it of its meaning and gives Israel the right to accept or reject whatever pertains to this right of slef-determination. Moreover, the European summit communique has excluded Jerusalem from the framework of the occupied Arab territories and has considered it a separate and negotiable issue and this arouses suspicions over the position of the European group countries toward the Arabism of Jerusalem. Moreover, the European communique has linked withdrawal and its concept to the instrument, method and course imposed by the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, and this is something that the Arab nation rejects. Thus, the European communique has come in evident response to the U.S. pressures and in line with the U.S. Middle East strategy.

Egyptian-U.S. Coordination

In his discussion of the European position, al-Fahum added:

The issue of the European movement has preoccupied the minds of many Arab officials but the Venice communique has been disappointing. The Palestinian officials have expressed our position toward this initiative.

We believe, and our brothers and friends share our opinion, that no European, African, Asian or international movement can be accepted unless it is based clearly and frankly on two fundamental points: First, recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of our people and recognition of the firm national rights of the Palestinian people, namely their right to repatriation, to self-determination and to establishing their national state over the liberated Palestinian soil. Second, rejection and frustration of the Camp David policy because it doesn't represent the right path toward just, comprehensive and real peace.

Al-Fahun also said: It has now become indubitably clear and evident that the military coordination between the United States and al-Sadat's regime against the aspirations and hopes of the Arab Egyptian people and of their national forces is coupled with another and more evident kind of coordination because the United States and Israel to impose the U.S. imperialist domination over the Middle East area and to control our national resources now that the energy crisis has intensified and become a matter of live or death for the west. This coordination between the United States, al-Sadat and Israel is also aimed at containing the area and at putting an end to the Arab liberation movement so that they may control the entire Arab homeland.

Conditions of Occupied Territories

Speaking about the conditions in the occupied homeland, al-Fahun said:

Our people in the occupied homeland are the ones who have foiled the self-rule plot. They have foiled it despite the enticement and intimidation campaigns to which they have been subjected by the racist Zionist occupation authorities, by al-Sadat's intelligence agencies and by the U.S. Central Intelligence. Not a single Palestinian has agreed to take part in the self-rule plot. Therefore, I am not exaggerating when I say that the steadfastness of our kinsmen in the occupied territories and the fully evident coordination and cooperation between the Arab Syria and the PLO have helped our kinsmen in the occupied territories to bolster their steadfast position, to carry on with their confrontation to continue to endure and to inflict defeat on all the forces of evil and aggression.

The stance of the Arab countries rejecting the policy of capitulation which the Camp David parties are trying to impose--this stance has had a clear impact on bolstering the steadfastness of our kinsmen in the occupied homeland and on raising their morale. However, the positions of these Arab countries should be developed. I hope that the Arab reactions to what our people are being subjected to will be of a more practical nature than the words of sympathy that we hear now, especially since foiling the self-rule plot is an indivisible part of the pan-Arab struggle because liquidation of the Palestinian cause means Zionist control of the Arab nation's destinies.

Concluding the interview, al-Fahun said;

The steadfastness of our people in the occupied homeland and supporting the PLO are tantamount to defending the Arab struggle generally. This is why we find that the racist Zionist enemy has intensified his ferocity and violence with the aim of imposing its control on the West Bank and Gaza Strip and why this enemy has resorted to the maximum degrees of organized terror through the deportation and assassination of the Palestinian national leaderships with the aim of devoiding the Palestinian land of its Arab inhabitants so that he may annex and incorporate it and may leap from it to size the neighboring Arab terrorists.

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LATEST CRIMES, SCANDALS IN ISRAEL DESCRIBED

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 23 Jun 80 p 18

/Article: Letter from Amman: AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM talks with Abu Jihad: We Will Compel Israel To Stay in a State of Permanent Alert"/

/Text/ At midnight, AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM recorded an important, intense conversation with one of the most conspicuous leaders of the Palestinian revolution, our brother Khalil al-Waz'r, Abu Jihad, member of the Central Committee of the FATH movement.

By virtue of the responsible position the well known fighting commander Abu Jihad occupies, the discussion concentrated on Palestinian military activity within the occupied territories.

In his talk, the Palestian official also dealt with an analysis and evaluation of the exploding situation in the occupied territories, and the relationship between the Palestinian revolution and liberation movements, especially in the military field. In brief, I can state that his serious, responsible talk makes the reader feel that he is making our nation face its responsibilities of providing the equipment and wherewithal to support the Palestinian fighting man and give free rein to the Arab fighting man, so that they may together create the badge of triumph, in a manner totally harmonious with the eternal slogan "ask for death and it will give you life!"

Herewith follows the text of AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM's conversation with the leader Abu Jihad:

/Question/ What is your evaluation of the situation in the occupied territories and analysis of the phenomenon of the resignation of the mayors and members of the municipal councils, or the withdrawl of the councils there, its connection and effect on the situation domestically, and Israeli reactions?

The leader Abu Jihad replied, "Regarding the subject of the resignations, we must pay heed to the fact that that is always linked with the nature of

events facing our people in the occupied territories; the method the Israeli enemy uses to confront our people is making the incidents there grow in number in accordance with the nature of the circumstances and the nature of the Israeli enemy's style. For a while, circumstances demanded, in the condition of the struggle of our brother Bassam al-Shak'ah, his arrest and the decision to banish him, that the mayors and members of the municipal councils declare a united stand alongside our brother al-Shak'ah. This stand has had its effect in having the enemy back down. Then the circumstances and events followed one another, and through these events the role the mayors play in the struggle to confront the occupation and to express national positions regarding every event our people experienced in the occupied territories became strengthened. This role has terrified our Zionist enemy, and he showed his vengeance and resentment at this role when theenemy leaders repeatedly declared their opposition to the mayors' domestic method vis-a-vis the definition of their positions and the positions declared on their part on national issues. Therefore the enemy has always called on the mayors and drawn their attention, through its declarations and press statements, repeatedly prevented the mayor of this town or that from meeting newsmen and prevented them on many occasions to have any meetings of a group of mayors, in addition to many measures the enemy adopts which we have learned about through the various press agencies and information media.

"The enemy," commander Abu Jihad went on, "has realized that the mayors' positions constitute one of the citadels of the struggle in confronting his tyranny, in confronting the occupation and his terror, in revealing and exposing the enemy's terrorist methods against our people, the grievances he is committing against them, and the arbitrary measures he is perpetrating to influence the moral spirit of our people, practicing more pressures to force our people to abandon their land and emigrate from their homeland so that he will be able to carry out his schemes and measures.

National Symbols

"When the campaign of national confrontation with the occupation intensified, we saw our enemy losing his judgment.

"Here he is, not knowing how to act, and we find him repressing a number of mayors and expelling some of them, as happened with our fighting brother Fahd al-Qawasimah, the mayor of Hebron, Muhammad Hasan Milhim, mayor of Halhul, and His Eminence Shaykh Rajab al-Tumimi, the Islamic judge of Hebron. The enemy uprooted them from the territory of the homeland and threw them far away, over the borders, to Lebanon, imagining that throwing these fighting men out of their homeland would douse the flame of revolution in the occupied territories. However, in spite of his terrorist methods and curfew system, the attacks by 'Gush Emonim' bands on the town of Hebron and its sections, their aggressions against property, cars, and inhabitants, and in spite of the methods of brutal terror which have also taken place in confronting the upheaval of our people in the occupied

territory--in spite of all that, the flame of revolution has not been extinguished, in fact, to the contrary, it has become more and explosive and inflammatory. As information has been constantly reaching us, the enemy leaders have discussed and studied in the Foreign and Security Affairs Committee and in their cabinet means whereby they can confront this decisive uprising, and they adopted the decision to use a more brutal method, which is that of individual liquidation. There then occurred the episodes of the aggressions against our two fighting brothers Bassam al-Shak'ah and Karim Khalaf, alongside the attempt also to commit aggression against our brother Ibrahim al-Tawil, the mayor of al-Birah. Through these operations, the enemy tried to liquidate the national symbols within and snuff out the burning firebrands of the struggle. However, their fortunes were dashed and their dreams were not realized. The fighting spirit exploded in a more extensive fashion within the ranks of our masses and this popular rallying about these fighting men made the enemy miss what he wanted. Our people's rallying around the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian revolution within the occupied territories has increased."

The Mistake of Resignation

The fighting commander Abu Jihad elaborated, stating: "In this atmosphere prominent voices said 'one must make a stand in which the mayors declare their resignations.' There was an initiative on the part of some and we ourselves said directly that this measure is a mistake. First, there must be a single national position on the part of all our brother mayors and municipal and village councils domestically, a united position is necessary, and then it is necessary to study the adversary's goals. In this struggle, he has tried to liquidate some mayors, and, if others resign, that will mean that we are falling into the adversary's net. Therefore it has been necessary that our brothers who declared this initiative directly must draw back and stand alongside their brothers. Otherwise we will be giving our enemy an opportunity then to form military committees which will take charge of commanding these municipalities, and therefore his schemes will be realized."

A Different Struggle

Our brother the commander Abu Jihad said, "This struggle is different from the previous one. The goals of this struggle are specific and its dimensions are clear. Therefore, we must act in our steps from this premise, and therefore the opinion has been that it is necessary not to resign and that those who offered their resignations should withdraw them. These brothers responded and the position within the occupied territories now has become clear. It is also a united position against the processes of resignation and a national position which perceives the goals of the adversary and understands what our Zionist enemy wants from these operations."

Military Operations

There is no doubt that the leader Abu Jihad is the best person to whom to direct a question in evaluating the index of guerrilla military operations against the Zionist enemy within, comparing them with past years, then evaluating their nature, qualitatively and quantitatively, and the reactions and comments by the enemy leadership on them.

Abu Jihad replies: "Naturally the platform of FATH and the Palestinian revolution has been and remains one of escalating revolutionary combat activity within our occupied territories; in fact, this activity has increased and escalated, and has not decreased. It is increasing every year over the preceding one, because our platform is to increase operations against the Zionist enemy in spite of increased Israeli measures and precautions and in spite of the almost permanent state of alert in every town, colonial outpost and settlement in the occupied territories. The life our enemy is living of near-alert, mobilization of civil guard and police, army, informers and the like, of which we may find a picture in their declaration that they have used 110,000 local guard members as well as army, police and general security forces and have used methods of enticement to follow up on military operations when they announce that prizes of 1,000 Israeli pounds are being offered to anyone finding anything suspicious, that anyone finding bombs will get 2,000 to 3,000 or 5,000 pounds, and that anyone seizing the person who set out the bomb will get 20,000 to 30,000 pounds, making the main concern of tens, indeed hundreds, of thousands of unemployed persons to act as informants roaming the streets of Jerusalem or Tel Aviv, Haifa and other colonial settlements in search of suspicious objects--and we hear Israeli police reports stating that thousands of reports reach them every day concerning every town or settlement--this life of a nearly permanent alert and constant vigilance the Zionist is witnessing constitutes a problem in military activity, but, in spite of all these circumstances, the schedule and list of military operations is increasing qualitatively and quantitatively."

Statement of Operations and the Enemy's Admissions

The commander Abu Jihad says, "Let us talk in the language of figures, according to the admissions of the Israeli enemy himself." Abu Jihad left the place, hastening to an adjacent room in order to bring a military file containing facts, statistics and figures on military operations within the occupied territories, then started to flip the pages of the file, stating, "According to admissions by the Israeli enemy--operations in 1977, for example; I do not want to talk about before that--the number of operations he acknowledged within the occupied territories in 1977 were 163. In 1978 they rose to 185 and increased to 329 in 1979. What has been broadcast about the number of military operations since the beginning of this year, up to the end of April, were 77 operations, by the enemy's admissions."

Increasing Operations

The commander Abu Jihad says, "These figures, according to Zionist admissions (which try to belittle the importance and number of the operations) give a clear picture of the increasing number of operations from the quantitative standpoint. From the standpoint of quality, and from the standpoint of performance level, the nature of operations, the style of organization and implementation, and the provision of security, let us listen to what our enemy says in this sphere.

Israeli Testimony

"The military correspondent of the Zionist newspaper YEDIOT AHARONOT talked about the status of the resistance and its development during the recent period, saying, 'The guerrillas have learned lessons from their past experiences. From the standpoint of organization their cells were many in number, but now, with the organization of their new cells, they pose abundant problems for Israeli intelligence. In recent time the personal level of the guerrillas has risen markedly and Israeli intelligence personnel say that they have discovered that the secret cells and the guerrilla groups they have discovered recently include the greatest number of college and university graduates who receive special instruction in which they learn ways of persevering in the face of Israeli intelligence interrogation if they fall into Israeli hands. The people trained in this field are guerrillas who have experienced detention in the occupied territories and have completed periods of imprisonment. Their weapons inside the occupied territories have developed greatly. Just 1 year ago 75 percent of the explosives were manufactured locally, in primitive form, but this year 80 percent of the explosives discovered or seized have been of excellent types, such as Cytex or R DeLuxe, whose killing power is much greater than any other explosive. This is one of the latent reasons for the fact that a very large number of people have been killed or wounded in the guerrilla operations which have been carried out in the recent period.'

Who Is Yusuf Nidam?

"The military editor of the Zionist newspaper YEDIOT AHARONOT went on to say, 'The guerrillas have never owned such a tremendous amount of explosives and war materiel as they do today. All evidence shows that this materiel is being transported somehow, but not via the bridges, through Lebanon or by the port of Haifa. Their greatest success occurred when they seized some explosives upon arresting Yusuf Juju Nidam and his group.'"

Another Item of Testimony

The Palestinian leader Abu Jihad went on to state, "Israeli military reports, which are confirmed by the military correspondent of the Zionist newspaper HAARETZ, stated 'Establishment of guerrilla cells has assumed a new form, and the number of people per cell has become very limited and

small. There are cells made up of one person or two only, while in the past cells consisted of six to nine persons. The type of guerrilla personnel also differs. Most guerrillas who have been arrested have enjoyed a broad cultural, educational and training level."

New Leaders in the Strip

Abu Jihad went on to say, "Military activity has developed not just on the bank but also in the Gaza area, which was dominated by a period of paralysis. 'She'ef Ze'evi' has mentioned that FATH exerted special efforts for months to expand its organizational and operational groundwork in the Gaza Strip. FATH particularly has operated there during the recent period to introduce commanders of a good level to develop the organization of secret cells and operation cells as well as developing the introduction of arms."

Developing Operations--and Increasing Their Rate

Commander Abu Jihad continued his statement, presenting his analysis and evaluation of guerrilla military operations and stating "These operations have developed and their areas have extended to encompass all areas of the occupied homeland, both the areas occupied in 1948, which the enemy has acknowledged have increased qualitatively and quantitatively, and the areas in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip." Even Col 'Yossi Wartmund,' head of the section of explosives experts in the Zionist police, has said, 'We cannot win this war; guerrilla bombs and explosives have become more developed and advanced than in the past. The arms stores and depots of the Israeli forces recently have become a big source of supply of explosives and weapons for those they call terrorists, and Palestinian organizations have succeeded in obtaining weapons in addition to army sources through marine shipments along the Mediterranean coast or by numerous packages by various ways and means, coming in by land, sea or air.'"

Military Activity--a Revolutionary Wing

On relations between political and military struggles within the revolutionary context, commander Abu Jihad says, "What I would like to state and stress here is that these military operations are constant and successive; they are increasing in quantity and developing in quality. These operations constitute one of the wings of revolutionary struggle; alongside this revolutionary struggle there is also another wing, the political struggle. Our people inside the occupied territories are performing this role inside, through the development and escalation we see in their political struggle, in confronting the challenge with strikes, protests and sit-ins, and in confronting terrorist methods with the national stands declared by our people, through their various institutions and leaders inside the occupied territories. This combative activity inside is not far removed, either, from what it represents in terms of a combative harvest in the form of a background for the Liberation Organization and Palestinian revolution's political struggle in various Palestinian spheres, among the ranks of our

people in all the areas where they are gathered and oriented, since the people's rallying about the Palestine Liberation Organization within these national forces inside the ranks of our people is being deepened and their national unity is also being deepened, in addition to our people's struggle inside our occupied territories or the Arab scene, when these triumphs of our people inside constitute a background and an incentive for the masses of our Arab nation in the Arab area, or for Arab regimes as well, and in the international area for all those with live consciences in this world who have supported our people's struggle or are standing alongside this struggle by various means--or even those who have not supported our rights but before whom these struggles constitute factors which challenge reality. It has become clear that these people are determined to gain their legitimate rights for their homeland, self-determination, and establishment of an independent state, and therefore our political movement is a combative movement complementing our revolutionary struggle and the military struggle and the political struggle are two wings of our people's revolutionary struggle."

Revolutionaries of the World in Palestinian Camps

/Question/ But what are the areas of cooperation between the Palestinian revolution and the revolutions in the world, especially in the context of military action? What is the philosophy of the Palestinian revolution defining the contexts and the policy of this cooperation?

Commander Abu Jihad says, "We, as a Palestinian revolution, have suffered a great deal from bitterness and torture. We as a Palestinian people who have borne many pains and hardships along the combative road are facing clear truth, which is that it is our duty to reduce the distance of torture and the road of pain for everyone battling for his rights. This is a conviction which has been born through our struggles and we have therefore announced our positions through every means in the Liberation Organization and the FATH movement. It has also been included in our political program, which was issued by the fourth conference of the Palestine National Liberation Movement (FATH), and it has also been included in numerous statements by the Palestine Liberation Organization and its national congresses, stressing the fact that the Palestinian organization and revolution stand alongside everyone who fights against occupation, alongside everyone who struggles for his rights, and alongside everyone who is oppressed, downtrodden or tortured. This position is a position in principle on the part of the Palestinian revolution, which stands in support of all fighting men. This has not been a slogan which is voiced--it is a fact embodied in our stand alongside all the combative and revolutionary movements in Asia and Africa." The commander Abu Jihad added, "If you come to our camps you will find revolutionaries there from all parts of the world; brother combatants are being trained in our camps and follow up on their combative missions after that."

The FATH Conference and the Main Issue

/Question/ What, however, is the effect of the resolutions of the recent Fourth FATH Conference in escalating military and fighting activity in the occupied territories?

The commander Abu Jihad replies, "The issue of escalating the Palestinian armed struggle and political struggle against our enemy was FATH's slogan at the fourth conference, and the main issue on which the Fourth FATH Conference laid emphasis, which was the summary of the resolutions, was to give priority to this issue and the escalation of the armed struggle within the occupied territories, escalating our struggle for the sake of attaining more victories. This was one of the basic points of emphasis and prominent landmarks at the meeting of the Fourth FATH Conference."

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EASING OF U.S.-IRAN CRISIS HINTED

Paris NAME-YE RUZ in Persian 4 Aug 80 p 1

[Text] In spite of the continuing publication of various anti-American announcements, and anti-Iranian ones in the United States, it appears that the crisis between the Iranian and U.S. governments is lessening to an extent. From one direction U.S. officials, concerning the property looted by members of the Pahlavi family, have once again announced, but this time more precisely, that complaints can be brought to U.S. courts for the restitution of this property. Of course if a complaint were brought, the first action according to U.S. laws would be to freeze the property until the court's opinion was announced. From another direction, in the case of the Iranian demonstrators who were arrested in Washington, it was decided to remove them from the police prison and place them in the authority of immigration officials. Furthermore, any one of them having permission to reside in the U.S. were to be released immediately. Only those not having residence permits would be tried on that charge and not on the (first) charge of disturbing the peace and fighting with the police. Meanwhile, as a result of objections of Iranian students residing in the U.S. concerning police brutality against those arrested, it was decided to begin investigations in this connection.

At the same time during the past two weeks, a number of Iranians have received travel visas to the United States "for humanitarian reasons," the first time since the students' occupation of the former U.S. embassy in Tehran and the hostage-taking of its personnel. A number of others have been promised that their visa request will be examined in a favorable light. Lastly, it was said in the United States after the deposed Shah's death that his family will not be able to reside in the United States with the easiness of the past.

Certainly this is slight evidence for claiming that the Iran-U.S. crisis is about to end. However, if we add to it the recent letter of U.S. senators to the Islamic Consultative Assembly, the sale of $150 million of spare parts from western petroleum organizations, among them American, to Iran by way of England, and note besides that the tone of recent anti-

American declarations and statements by Iranian officials and the numerous centers of power in that country has become milder, then we can say that basic efforts are probably underway behind the scenes to resolve the crisis between the two countries. It certainly appears that this time the channels of communication have completely altered. Basically, the Americans who had until now based their hopes for creating better relations with Iran on secular leaders, have this time established some religious leaders as their direct correspondents.

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BEHESHTI SEEN AS IRAN'S FUTURE LEADER

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic No 27, 16-22 Aug 80

[Article by Wafiq Ramadan: "Beheshti: 'Khomeyni's Alternate'"]

[Text] Next to Imam Khomeyni, everything in Iran revolves about Ayatollah Beheshti who, until a few months ago, was relatively unknown. Now, however, as the political picture in Iran is becoming clearer, Beheshti's name is heard everywhere. Political life from Qum to Tehran appears to revolve about him.

The political picture that is emerging after many months of confusion is as Beheshti has planned. He has managed to divide the country into two factions: the weak and the powerful. The powerless group--which was not so only a few months ago--has been reduced to its present impotent position as a result of Beheshti's shrewd and exceptionally brilliant political maneuvering and intellectual skill. Simultaneously, Beheshti's superior organizational ability has made the powerful group even stronger. The political battlefield is now wide open before this group and it is expected to tighten its grip on the country's political reins.

The weak faction consists mainly of those who had returned from exile to join the Islamic revolution. Imbued with liberal ideas, and laboring under the notion that loyalty to the revolution and Imam al-Khomeyni was all that was needed to insure the success of their cause, this group has been woefully disappointed. Heading the list of this faction are the President, Dr Abol Hasan Bani-Sadr, followed by the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Sadegh Qutbzadeh, his predecessor Dr Ibrahim Yazdi and others. The powerful group, on the other hand, is made up largely of the clergy, a group that will settle for nothing less than total control.

In today's Iran, Beheshti has become the only standard by which the political strength of all political figures is measured. His total control of everything in Iran is exercised principally through the various offices and positions he holds:

--He is the first secretary of the Revolutionary Council, which, until the new Majlis (parliament) was convened a few weeks ago, exercised both legislative and executive power.

--He is the head of the Islamic Republican Party, the party of the clergy, which boasts millions of members, and which controls parliament, a body more than 70 percent of whose members are party adherents. (Because parliamentary elections in certain parts of Iran have not been completed, parliament has only 236 members out of a total of 270. Of the 236 members, 120 are party members and 40 others are sympathetic supporters.)

--He heads the revolutionary (governmental) committees, which have replaced the police and the army, and which exercise de facto control throughout the country.

--He heads the Council of Experts, which supervises all legislation, and which was responsible for drafting Iran's new constitution.

Ayatollah Beheshti, 51 years old, is a tall man. His black religious garb tends to make him appear even taller. Unlike other clergymen, he is extremely careful about his appearance. His crisply pressed garb is tailored of the best material. His appearance is impressive, and his deep resonant voice is heard immediately the moment he alights from his dark green automobile among a group of heavily armed guards.

During Imam Khomeyni's last months of exile in Paris in the fall of 1978, his voice was heard through Beheshti, who acted as his coordinator, interpreter, chief organizer and executive. Beheshti's name was linked with a number of events associated with the fall of the shah's regime and the success of the Islamic revolution. His gradual rise in Iran's religious and political circles caused even the United States to take note of his power as evidenced by the indirect contacts made with him regarding the American hostages. Such contacts were initially made with President Bani-Sadr. These contacts, however, will be to no avail, particularly in view of Beheshti's more extreme position on the hostage issue as well as on relations with the United States in general. Beheshti's power has in fact grown in proportion to the decline in Bani-Sadr's influence and to his multiplying internal political difficulties. The Iranian President's immature, even childish, actions to regain Imam Khomeyni's support are a measure of his desparation to gain the upper hand in the struggle against Beheshti and to halt his rise to power.

From the moment he was elected president, Bani-Sadr has failed to assess properly Beheshti's religious and political clout. This lack of vision led him to declare prematurely upon his election that the Islamic Republican Party was finished and that, at any rate, it represented no more than 4 percent of Iran's electorate.

Bani-Sadr's declaration was the signal that the conflict between Beheshti and his supporters on the one hand, and Bani-Sadr and the handful of his friends who have returned with him from exile on the other has come into the open. The disparity in the relative strength of the opposing parties soon became evident. For while the Islamic Republican Party's newspaper,

THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC, began to accuse Bani-Sadr and his friends openly of deviation from the Islamic course, Bani-Sadr's paper, THE ISLAMIC REVOLUTION, failed to respond adequately or to go on the offensive. The journalistic battle continued in this fashion until Bani-Sadr, possessed by an illusion that he has "cornered" Beheshti, launched a campaign in which his party's paper accused Dr Hasan Ayat, head of Beheshti's Political Bureau, of plotting to overthrow Bani-Sadr. The campaign failed dismally. For, after all, what is the value of a tape recording in which Hasan Ayat's voice is heard inciting against Bani-Sadr in a political arena already reverberating with the din of clashing political armor in the best Iranian style? Bani-Sadr's unsuccessful campaign, however, provided Beheshti with an opportunity to call a press conference and to enhance his image further before foreign journalists.

Bani-Sadr's mortal error, the error that eroded his prestige and is bound to cost him his office in the near future, is that he failed to find a way to come to an understanding with Beheshti rather than confront him. For how could Beheshti and other clerics remain silent in the face of Bani-Sadr's last January's post-election announcement in which he vowed to impose restrictions on the political power of certain religious figures? Beheshti, of course, was the intended target of that announcement; nevertheless many members of the clergy found the announcement unacceptable. Had Bani-Sadr read the [new] constitution carefully, he would have realized that limiting the power of the clergy was impossible. On the contrary, they had the power to limit his own. They had in fact demonstrated that power earlier against nonreligious figures like Bani-Sadr and ultimately succeeded in removing them from positions of authority altogether.

Beheshti's wiliness and shrewd maneuvering trapped Bani-Sadr in the snare he was preparing for Beheshti. When the early results of the parliamentary elections began to show that Beheshti's party was winning, Bani-Sadr still harbored hopes of gaining the upper hand by appointing one of his supporters to the prime minister's office, one who would help him in confronting the predominantly Beheshti-controlled parliament. As Bani-Sadr sent name after name to parliament for approval to the prime minister's office, Beheshti's taunting response came back in the form of an insistence that not only the prime ministry, but the important ministries as well as the presidency of parliament must go to his majority party. The danger of becoming a puppet in Beheshti's hands, a fear that had constantly haunted Bani-Sadr, suddenly became real. He began to see the presidency of Iran as a decorative office, one whose responsibilities would be limited to presiding over the opening of flower shows. This spectre drove Bani-Sadr to despair. In a last-ditch--and, of course, hypocritical--effort to save the situation, he proposed to Imam Khomeyni to appoint his son, Hojjat Oleslam Ahmad Khomeyni, to the prime minister's office. Not only did Khomeyni reject the suggestion publicly, but he ruled out any of his relatives for public office. Following this development, Bani-Sadr announced that Mustafa Mir Salim would be the future prime minister. But this candidate was also turned down by the Beheshti-controlled religious

majority in parliament. This is the situation today, but there will be no progress until Bani-Sadr nominates to the office a candidate acceptable to Beheshti.

Beheshti, however, is not easy to satisfy. He will settle for nothing less than the total islamization of all facets of life in Iran. His obsession with this objective is behind the recent dismissal of leftist university professors and students. Beheshti's "purification" campaign extends to anyone not totally committed to comprehensive islamization. The possibility that a few innocent people may fall victims will not deter Beheshti. Not only does he wield the reins of political authority through his majority in parliament and his control of the Revolutionary Council and the Republican Islamic Party, he has strong relations with Khomeyni as well. Furthermore, he exercises immense military power through the Revolutionary Committees and the Revolutionary Guard and enjoys the absolute support of the clergy in Qum and Tehran. His weekly press conference has made him a star of the international press. The Iranian newspapers quote his remarks and publish his pictures daily. His knowledge of both English and German enhance his image in the foreign press, which he knows how to handle. (He learned German while heading the Islamic Center in Hamburg from 1962-68.)

It is evident that nothing in Iran can stop Beheshti. When Imam Khomeyni dies, Beheshti will inherit the mantle of the "Supreme Religious Leader" (the de facto head of government of the Islamic Republic of Iran). Beheshti satisfies all the constitutional criteria to lead the nation and to insure that all governmental agencies and institutions will remain true to their Islamic responsibilities.

Beheshti exploits every political development, external or internal, to further weaken the secular [nonreligious] faction. The most dramatic example of this is his success in directing the anger of the Iranian populace against any leader advocating a moderate position in regard to the hostage question. Included in this list are Bani-Sadr and Qutbzadeh, and, before them, Mahdi Bazarghan and Ibrahim Yazdi. Beheshti has succeeded brilliantly in keeping the hostage issue "hot," one not admitting of easy solutions and not without conditions.

Even as Beheshti scrambles to wrest all political power in Iran, he continues to enjoy the complete confidence of Imam Khomeyni. He is the imam's special adviser and spends many hours with him every day. No one else enjoys this privilege. At the same time, Beheshti is said to have given Imam Khomeyni a few anxious days. It is believed that the heart ailment which afflicted Khomeyni a few months ago, and from which he recovered totally, was triggered by a letter from Hojjat Oleslam 'Ali Tahrani, a confidante of Khomeyni, accusing Beheshti of being behind the attempt to assassinate General Vally-Ollah Qarani and Hojjat Oleslam Mohammad Mofti. The letter is said to have absolved Forqan [an extremist group] of the assassination attempts as previously announced.

Beheshti is the kind of person who does not bend easily. His persistence was demonstrated in a pre-presidential election meeting with al-Khomeyni in which he spent 6 hours trying to convince the imam to support the candidacy of Jalaleddin Farsi. The attempt was to no avail. Farsi later withdrew from the race when it was revealed that he was partly Afghan and not 100 percent of Iranian stock as the constitution stipulates.

Beheshti is back again pushing Farsi for the office of prime minister. Bani-Sadr is opposed to this candidate precisely because of Beheshti's support for him. The confrontation between these two thus continues, and more fireworks are in the offing.

Beheshti is not a latter-day supporter of the Islamic revolution. He played a crucial role during the 12 months preceding the fall of the shah and the subsequent creation of the Islamic Republic of Iran. His efforts on behalf of the revolution have raised his political stock immensely and made him a powerful force to be reckoned with in Iran's political game.

Beheshti's maneuvers against the Bakhtiar government on the eve of the shah's fall are responsible for its fragmentation and for demoralizing Bakhtiar himself. Beheshti is said to have sent Bakhtiar a letter containing two items: the text of Bakhtiar's own resignation, and an announcement that he [Bakhtiar] would be leaving for Paris, to see the Imam al-Khomeyni at his residence in Neauphile-le-Château. (The letter was carried by Amir 'Abbas Intizam, then a spokesman for the government, and later imprisoned upon the discovery of documents in the U.S. Embassy linking him with some of its employees.) Beheshti's letter struck Bakhtiar like a thunderbolt. He announced his readiness to go see al-Khomeyni but declined to resign beforehand. Beheshti rejected Bakhtiar's offer and so did al-Khomeyni at Beheshti's urging. When Bakhtiar announced that he was ready to meet with al-Khomeyni, the latter announced that he would not see him. Bakhtiar's government soon collapsed without Bakhtiar's resignation or a meeting with Khomeyni.

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SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL ISSUES DISCUSSED BY BEHESHTI

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 7 Aug 80 p 18

[Text] Ayatollah Dr Beheshti, Chief Justice of the National Supreme Court, spoke at a press conference yesterday morning, answering the questions of local and foreign reporters. He disclosed a planned propaganda plot and said concerning this matter:

The problem is that according to information I have received, Imperialism and world Zionism have been putting all their energy during the past year and a half into destroying the clergy's image, especially those persons who have a firm and proper standing among the people, and they have tried to dissolve the trusting relationship between the people and the clergy. The revolution's detractors abroad also benefit from the cooperation and agreement of groups and individuals within the country, and moreover they are not without the cooperation of some counterrevolutionaries who live abroad. It is thus clear that this plan is for all the confederates and sworn supporters of the former regime both within and outside the country, to help them carry out this plot. Since this group will resort to any method or lie to further its aims, when it senses that the solidarity between the people and committed and responsible clerics is stronger and more deeply rooted than with the perpetrators of these plots, it immediately seeks to launch a propaganda campaign against them.

On the basis of information I have received recently, they are preparing a propaganda campaign both domestically and abroad, using altered tapes and retouched photographs. Therefore, people who feel that they will be taken out of the picture because of these persistent activities will also participate in the plot.

I have a number of their names, which I will not disclose now pending positive verification, but if these people want to waste our dear country's precious time and energy on these troublemakers and this psychological and propaganda warfare, I will expose all of them by announcing their names and characteristics. Doctor Beheshti then added:

I am warning them at this press conference to desist from their plotting, for the smoke of the fires they are fanning will end up in their own eyes.

Our nation will not leave them at peace, for some of them are people who have come to Iran after the revolution who lived abroad comfortably throughout those years. I say to them that our people have sufficient data at hand to identify them thoroughly, and if any new information concerning these plots becomes available we will turn it over to the people.

Reason for Releasing the Students

A reporter noted that American immigration authorities had announced the release of the students because they had given their names to that administration, and asked him if he thought this was the real reason for their release.

Actually, activities like this pose two dangers for America. One is that there will be a reflexive continuation of these heroic confrontations in American society, especially American Moslem society, which cannot benefit America. We can say that this episode was an epic song these young people sang in their relationship with Islam.

The second is that they wanted to end the disturbance as quickly as possible.

Helping Lebanese Shi'ites

Another reporter asked:

Now that the well being of the Lebanese Shi'ites is being threatened by the Iraqi Government, what sort of help can the Iranian Government offer at this stage of its development?

It is natural that they should receive political, social, and material assistance, for this is an Islamic duty. Any number of difficulties of various kinds will develop for us unless we give them substantial aid.

The Fate of the Pilgrimage

A question was asked as to whether Saddam Hossein's talks with the King of Saudi Arabia would adversely affect the Iranian pilgrimage to Mecca.

Beheshti answered:

I do not forsee such a thing happening.

The Madani Question

Another reporter asked:

What do you see concerning the fate of the case of Mr Madani, after the rejection of his credentials and the documents that have come to hand concerning him?

Beheshti answered:

This matter would be more under the jurisdiction of the Revolutionary Court, and Mr Qoddusi would be better able to express an opinion.

Differing Criteria

The question was asked: You have talked about differing criteria in your own speeches and you have mentioned that the Islamic Republican Party's criteria for choosing a prime minister differ from those of the President of the Republic. Could you possibly explain these differences?

Beheshti said: On the contrary, I stressed in that speech that after long discussions we came to the conclusion that we have no differences of criteria, and moreover these criteria were also written into the agreement of unity that was concluded between us and signed by those present. It is possible, however, that differences arose in recognizing these criteria, for example, concerning the person we have in mind, that Mr Bani Sadr might not consider him to be in accordance with these criteria, and/or vice versa.

It was said: Could you say that these standards are what you have stressed?

Beheshti answered:

These standards are the same ones that have appeared in party statements, as well as in the newspaper JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, and our standards are the same ones the Imam has stressed.

Spy Trials

The question was asked: The Supreme Judicial Council will have responsibility for trying the American spies. Will the behavior of the American police towards our students have any effect on their trial?

Beheshti answered: You know that this issue cannot be allowed to influence the domain of justice. It is in a realm outside the issue of justice. In the realm of justice we cannot punish someone for another more serious crime.

The Jerusalem Question

The question was asked: Do you, as a policy making individual, have a plan for recovering Jerusalem?

Beheshti answered: This is an objective towards which we will have to struggle for a long time. In my view, one of the things we can do to realize this objective is to spread the Islamic Revolution throughout the Islamic world. At the same time, close cooperation between Iran and the Palestinian fighters can also be considered a very effective way to attain this goal.

Personal Conflicts

A reporter asked: Mr Bani Sadr said last week that personal conflicts are hurting the Islamic Republic. What did he mean by this?

Doctor Beheshti answered:

I did not ask him about this particular remark, but he was asked about all the issues he discussed and they told him that his view was pessimistic and reminded him that this kind of talk will create an atmosphere of ambiguity and misgiving among the people.

His answer to our friends was: I was not referring to you, because we are friends, and if we have differences we can resolve them through discussion.

The question was asked: Is the matter of the disappearance of Imam Musa Sadr still being pursued or not?

Doctor Beheshti said: There is no doubt that the issue of Imam Musa Sadr is important to us, whether from the standpoint of religion, politics, or emotion. This matter will remain alive and important for us, and we will seriously pursue the possibilities of the issues.

How much information have you obtained in connection with this?

We have not obtained any information that could be called significant.

Another reporter asked:

What new steps have been taken by the Supreme Judiciary Council?

The answer was given: We have had no new basic tasks. The tasks are outlined in previous statements.

Foreign Reporters

Foreign reporters also took part in this press conference. The answers to their questions appear below.

One foreign reporter asked about the clergy's relationship to the exercise of power within the country.

A: The relationship between the country's system and the clergy is shown in the relationship between Islam and the government.

Iran is an Islamic country. A clergyman's role in the system to a certain extent resembles the role of an ideologue (theorizer) in an ideological system. I don't think this is anything like an ecclesiastical system.

Q: Don't several of the people in the Majles patronize your party?

A: The number of party members in the Majles is around 70. Those who think along party lines, however, number perhaps 130. Therefore there is harmony between the party and the Majles.

Concerning the President of the Republic

Q: What do you think of the President of the Republic?

A: Our belief is that the President of the Republic must be strengthened to enable him to carry out his responsibilities.

Sometimes, however, this matter depends on following a line of harmony and like thinking, so that points of view in the country's administration can be perceived. Through this kind of mutual understanding we can create conditions that will be very useful for cooperation. We have tried and made efforts to create these conditions, and we have succeeded to a certain extent, but not entirely.

Q: Do you have a consensus of opinion on the prime minister?

A: Yes, we have exchanged views at our weekly meeting, and we hope to make an announcement concerning the prime minister within two days.

Anti-American Feelings

Another reporter asked:

Anti-American feelings in Iran are now pervasive and intense. Do you think these feelings will continue a long time?

A: As long as the American Government does not change its position, these feelings will continue a long time.

Q: Apparently the Americans want to meet some of the Iranian demands, such as releasing impounded funds, in order to free the hostages. Will this be useful?

A: We must see what the Majles will say about this. At the moment the Majles is involved with more important matters, such as choosing a prime minister and a cabinet. After that, it is possible that the Majles will take steps to discuss this matter.

Another reporter, concerning the same matter, importunately asked:

You have a lot of influence. In your view, if the American Government wants to meet some of the Iranian demands, will this result in the release of the hostages?

A: This matter depends on the decision of the Majles. All the issues will be discussed and deliberated in the Majles. It is not for us to say it will go this way or that way. The Majles representatives will study every aspect of ways to solve this problem.

Another foreign reporter asked about differences of opinion with Mr Bani Sadr, and Mr Beheshti answered:

The differences between myself and Mr Bani Sadr should not be regarded as differences between two individuals, but as differences between the thinking of the Islamic Republican Party and the thinking of the President of the Republic and a great many others in society. It is natural that all people in society think a certain way. They do not think alike.

One foreign reporter asked about Iran's economic difficulties. In answering, Dr Beheshti said:

We must study the Iranian economy as much as possible, for we do not want to follow the former economic path. We must lay down new plans based on new premises, and this is not easy. No matter how difficult it may be, however, there is nothing to prevent us from starting.

Throughout the past year we have sought to identify areas of difficulty in the economy, and we now have a better understanding of these problems. I hope we will solve the problems in the near future.

Some of the foreign reporters again asked about the prime minister and the cabinet ministers. Dr Beheshti answered: We have issued a statement, and I have said several times in interviews and speeches that the party has no difficulty in this matter. The most important point is that the prime minister and the ministers must be selected on the basis of Islamic criteria, they must be believing Moslems, revolutionary, active and decisive. They must be able to work as a group and get along with other members of the cabinet.

Q: Do you have anyone in particular in mind?

A: The Islamic Party has mentioned several people. I have nothing new to say. We do not mean, however, that the prime minister will definitely be one of these people. Anyone who has sound Islamic standards is acceptable for us. We only require that values and standards be upheld. Determining this is the responsibility of the Majles, not the party and not the President of the Republic.

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RECENT DEVELOPMENTS DISCUSSED BY DR BEHESHTI

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 14 Aug 80 p 2

[Text] Ayatollah Dr Beheshti, Chief Justice of the National Supreme Court, answered various questions yesterday from foreign and local reporters at a television and radio press conference.

In answer to a question regarding the existence of a plot, he said: We have received sufficient information concerning this plot. Those who should follow up on this information are doing so, in order to develop very clear conclusions. I am not at liberty to give any more details.

Priority Tasks

Concerning priority tasks in the Majles, Ayatollah Beheshti said: The basic task consists of extensive and effective efforts to increase the spiritual and moral content of the revolution, not merely with talk and writing, but through the use of practical and constructive methods. The second thing is to establish legal and social security. It is natural that the greater part of this responsibility is ours, and we are making efforts, but the military and law enforcement agencies, the radio and television media and other organs also have an effective role to play in this area. Thirdly, we are trying to get the economy on its feet and make it active, especially in the area of production and just distribution of wealth and necessities of life within the Islamic Republic of Iran, and to develop a decisive foreign policy, as well as to rapidly and decisively pursue a cultural revolution.

Establishing an Atmosphere of Mutual Understanding

A reporter asked him, what was discussed when you were with the Imam yesterday? He said: The Imam recommended that efforts be made by all officials in the country to create an atmosphere of peace and mutual understanding, stressing that the future government of Mr Raja'i should be established with the help of God on the basis of genuine Islamic standards and principles.

The Imam stressed: Every official in the country must try to bring about a greater atmosphere of mutual understanding and cooperation than we have had

until now, and to stop every process that damages mutual understanding and cooperation between officials. He stressed that the officials themselves must be very careful in their interviews, and avoid saying things that could be misused by groups and elements with bad intentions. They must be cautious with their words and deeds. He also ordered that the newspapers must always write to encourage the people, not with false hopes, but with hopes that are real. They must report the positive accomplishments and activities of the revolution, the Majles of the President of the Republic, the government, and the different units, to the people. If they find some small discrepancy and exaggerate it, naturally the people will become anxious. He stressed that they must eliminate this distrubing atmosphere that creates needless apprehension.

The question was asked: It appears that Mr Bani Sadr does not have confidence in the activities of Mr Raja'i. What is your view?

I know Mr Raja'i to be a brother with faith, who is hard working, with outstanding moral principles and an outstanding revolutionary background. I think such a prime minister, more than anyone else, is capable of attracting genuine revolutionary forces and that he and the revolutionary forces will be highly efficient together. I pray that God will grant them success. Although Mr Raja'i is not a member of the Islamic Republican Party, he is one of our long time companions, coworkers and peers. I have known him for 17 years. Generally I see that there are two schools of thought concerning his recent service in the field of education and training. Some speak very highly of his work, and there are also those who criticize him. The truth is, I have not yet had an opportunity to collect the facts and evaluate this carefully to see which of these views is correct. Are his critics correct, his supporters, or actually both of them? In some respects his work was very good, and at times it was also open to criticism. In any case, the evaluation should be reopened. I can say that I am very optimistic about the future of this dear brother's work. God willing, the government chosen by the Majles will be a pious people's government, with faith in the character of the people, especially since he has stressed that his ministers will be chosen from groups crystallized by the Islamic revolution. I hope to see shining and successful programs and achievements during the period of his prime ministership.

Meetings of Saddam and Zia'olhaqq

Concerning Saddam Hossein and Zia'olhaqq's meetings with the King of Saudi Arabia, Doctor Beheshti said: The triumphant Islamic revolution of the Iranian nation has agitated and disturbed officials and temporal rulers who do not govern their people on the basis of Islam. Furthermore, the world devouring aggressor America is left with nothing to do in the area.

Enjoining Good and Prohibiting Evil

A reporter asked: Are there organizations in existence to carry out the (Koranic) injunction to enjoin what is good and prohibit waht is evil?
The Chief Justice of the National Supreme Court said:

The matter of enjoining good and prohibiting evil has different aspects. One side of it pertains to the common people, another aspect of it concerns radio, television, and the press, another aspect of it concerns education, training, and higher education. Another dimension of it concerns national guidance, culture, and art, and an important part of that is the responsibility of the clergy, which is working freely in this area, and part of it is also the responsibility of the judicial branch. In having these two separate branches it was foreseen that each of these two powers would be responsible for one part of the task of enjoining good and prohibiting evil. One is monitoring the entire country, and one is the court of justice, and actually these two branches are each responsible for a part of enjoining the good and prohibiting evil.

Concerning the consolidation of the courts, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court said:

Even now the revolutionary courts are under the jurisdiction of the judicial branch, and they work under the supervision of the Supreme Judicial Council. Furthermore, for that matter the constitution has now been put into effect. As soon as the Supreme Judicial Council was formed the constitution was put into effect.

These days there is not a single court outside the control of the Supreme Judiciary Council. Every decision is subject to confirmation, rejection, and explanation, and the Supreme Judicial Council, which is responsible for Judiciary matters, carried out these things.

Student Demonstrations

Concerning demonstrations by Iranian students abroad, he said: On the basis of the absence of capitulation everywhere in the world, the courts there cannot do anything. This is a responsibility of our Foreign Ministry, which must be the protector of the rights of our citizens outside the country. If the courts are unable to do anything, it will act on its responsibility.

It is the job of the courts to give the necessary explanations to the Foreign Ministry.

Buying Wheat

In the matter of buying wheat, Doctor Beheshti said: According to the agreements we have made, we will not refuse this wheat, because we cannot be sure of our grain supplies during the next year.

Securing Employment

Concerning the issue of securing employment for young people who are unemployed or retired as a result of purges, Doctor Beheshti said:

There is no disputing the fact that work in harmony with the revolution must be created for those who are unemployed because of purges. The process of creating employment, however, will not be confined to forced labor camps. Fortunately, we live in a time when solutions are more numerous. Initially we must try to guide them towards suitable work by making use of their personal initiative. Naturally, if these methods are not effective or cannot be used, we must not rule out the possibility of setting up forced labor camps.

The Minister of Justice

Concerning the nomination of someone as minister of justice, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court said:

According to the constitution, this matter is in the hands of the Supreme Judicial Council, and the Supreme Judicial Council can even nominate two or three people. Then Mr Raja'i can select one of them as minister of justice in his cabinet. We will do this at the first session of the Supreme Judicial Council. We have some people in mind, but we have not as yet made a definite decision, because we wanted to see what the makeup of the Prime Minister's cabinet would be in order to be able to account for the necessary compatibilities.

Agitation and Chanting

A reporter asked about the agitation and chanting that had taken place at some talks. Doctor Beheshti said: There is no doubt that all responsible brothers must strive to prevent these abuses. This is not difficult to do, and they must not even be given an opening. We will succeed, just as I myself have always employed this method in all my speeches. Fortunately, I see that though the speech may be attended by a large crowd, there have been no such abuses, neither during the talk, not so far as I have heard, afterwards. I recommend this method that I have been able to employ to all brothers.

Confiscation of Land

Concerning the confiscation of land, he said:

Two tasks must be carried out simultaneously and in a parallel direction, in order to be truly effective. One is to write a law for implementing article 46 of the constitution. This article states: Persons who acquire wealth by selling dead lands, substandard constructions, by charging interest, by making profits on public property and other such method must have this wealth confiscated by legal means.

We must act quickly to implement this article. Of course the major part of this task is the responsibility of the executive offices of the judicial branch, and we are also trying to empower the judicial branch to pursue this matter, to prepare the necessary laws, and submit them for legislative approval.

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DR SHAKERI PROPOSES DEMOCRATIC FRONT

Paris NAME-YE RUZ in Persian 9 Aug 80 p 1

[Text] Dr Shakeri, a distinguished member of the National Democratic Front and a major opponent of the Shah's regime, during a press interview in London called for the union of all moderate and leftist democrats in Iran in order to overthrow the fanatic, pitiless religious regime of Ayatollah Khomeyni and to establish a democratic, multi-party republic.

Radio BBC said in this connection that it is totally clear that efforts are underway to revive the policy of the era of Dr Mosaddeq, meaning a government largely composed of secular persons and having a social-democratic policy. Dr Shakeri belongs to a front that has been founded recently. This front is hopeful that it can find supporters among the ranks of the National Front, the Mojahedin-e Khalq and Feda'i-ye Khalq guerilla organizations and other minorities.

What is noteworthy is that Dr Shakeri is utterly opposed to military intervention in Iran from abroad, and says that such an action would have grave consequences for Iran since such interference would doubtless lead to a civil war. Within the framework of this belief Dr Shakeri harshly criticized Shapur Bakhtiar, and said that Bakhtiar is in contact with Zionist supporters and General Oveysi. In the BBC's view, considering all the disputes between the groups opposed to the Islamic Republic, whether in Iran or abroad, there is small probability that a moderate, secular and democratic regime will replace the Islamic Republic in the near future. However, if it is said that the Islamic Republican control is lying in wait to exert influence throughout the country and alienate all other political groups from itself, it must also be said that at present it appears that the formation of a union of moderates and leftists could possibly attract the attention and support of the people.

In the past several weeks contacts have been made for a union of all moderate and progressive forces. Meetings in this connection were held outside Iran. These groups which were strongly opposed to the dictatorial Pahlavi regime and which played an extremely important role in its overthrow now desire the creation of a democratic regime in Iran without having opponents connected with the former regime, whether Oveysi's, Bakhtiar's or Nahavandi's, play any role in it.

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RAJA'I'S CANDIDACY APPROVED AS PREMIER BY PARLIAMENT

Statements Made by New Premier

Paris NAME-YE RUZ in Persian 12 Aug 80 p 1

[Text] Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the new prime minister, told reporters last night: Since friends wish to know me better, I will introduce myself in three sentences: I am a follower of the Imam, a son of the Majles, and a brother of the President of the Republic.

I am a follower of the Imam, and this is one of the pure qualities of the members of our cabinet, and we hope that these pure qualities will be able to establish a flow between the people, the executive organizations, and the revolutionary structures.

I am a son of the Majles for the Imam, because I never made any attempt to become prime minister, so that the Majles presented me as prime minister because of its encounters with me and its previous acquaintance with me. In this respect I regard myself as a son of the Majles, meaning I am actually a son of the people, because the Majles, in its most secluded lawmaking sessions, benefits from the decisive counsel of the people. In the kindness that my colleagues have shown in the course of all this I have benefited from very decisive counsel.

I am a brother of the President of the Republic inasmuch as we both have responsibilities and we hope to be the elected representatives of the people in the service of the people, and we hope our brotherhood will become closer every day. We will expend all our efforts in the service of the people and in alleviating their difficulties.

Concerning the government's program, Raja'i said: We have no specific program now whose aspects can be presented, except the belief of the people of Iran who made a revolution, shed blood, and delivered the nation and this country from the clutches of this regime. I hope to submit this nation, with its wealth, to the revolutionary people who shed blood at the crossroads of origin in Tehran and various other places. We believe they are the most worthy persons to administer the nation. We will prepare a program and submit it to the respected representatives of the Majles.

Concerning future ministers, the Prime Minister said: We will make use of all revolutionary structures, both their own people and their knowledge, and God willing we will introduce a cabinet that follows the line of the people and is with the people themselves.

Speech of Palestine Envoy at Parliament

Paris NAME-YE RUZ in Persian Aug 12 80 pp 2-3

[Text] Yesterday the Islamic Consultative Assembly, having been introduced to the Prime Minister by the President of the Republic, gave him a vote of confidence. At this session, which convened at 11:30 presided over by Hojjatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, a vote of confidence was given to 'Ali Raja'i as Prime Minister, who had been introduced in a letter from the President of the Republic, in a secret balloting. With all 196 ballots counted there were 153 votes for, 24 votes against, and 19 abstentions.

Participants in the Jerusalem Liberation Congress visited the open session. After their arrival Hojjatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani said during an address: On behalf of all the representatives of the Consultative Assembly, we extend a welcome to the brothers and sisters of the freedom movement of the Islamic sector to the presence of the Imam and especially to the Majles. On behalf of our brothers we announce that this Majles, which is the protector of the Moslem people of Iran, having taken the name Islamic Council, counts you foreign brothers and sisters among its own people.

He added: When the Imam proclaims one of the days of the blessed month of Ramazan "Jerusalem Day," this is the best indication of the protection by the people of Iran for the freedom movements of the Islamic sectors of the world.

Then a representative of free Eritrea, on behalf of participants in the Jerusalem Conference said during his talk and after praising the Imam of the nation, the oppressed people of the world, and representatives of the Islamic Consultative Assembly: The participating representative groups, in honor of the second anniversary of world Jerusalem day, observed the near readiness of the Iranian Moslem nation concerning Palestinian liberation and the participation of all sides in observing friday as Jerusalem day. This confirms for us that even our enemy's prime minister in occupied Palestine, who called the Iranian moslem nation an earthquake, is correct. The liberation of Jerusalem in the beginning of a day of transforming this earthquake to a volcanic eruption in the face of Zionism.

After that Hojjatoleslam Montazeri delivered a report to the Majles on the activities of the Jerusalem Liberation Congress and said: According to the order of Imam Khomeyni, who has declared world Jerusalem Day a day when the oppressed will stand up to the oppressors, we call this an honorable day.

Then Hani al-Hassan, representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization, during a speech, said that the Islamic Republic's recent announcement about freeing Jerusalem and occupied Palestine was cheering news for all Moslems of the world, especially Palestinian Moslems. The Palestinians were the happiest people, for we know that in the end it is the Islamic nation that must free Palestine.

In another part of his speech he said: The Palestinian people are a believing people, for a people who exist in the Masjedolaqsa (a mosque in Jerusalem) and in the Christian churches cannot fail to be a believing people. We are expecting you to come and participate with us in the liberation of Palestine, and when you participate directly in the war with the enemy, you will be able to implant your Islamic ideas there.

In conclusion he said: In the name of all the oppressed people of the world we wish you a happy Jerusalem Day, and in the name of the Moslem nation of Palestine we thank the Iranian people and Imam Khomeyni on the occasion of the declaration of Jerusalem Day and the extensive cooperation on this day.

At this session the committee to study the qualifications of the prime minister presented its report to the Majles. Initially Hojjatoleslam Yazdi reported the study committee's candidates for the prime ministership and the committee's consultation with the President, and he said this committee finally agreed on Mr Raja'i.

Hojjatoleslam Yazdi added: At the end we came to the conclusion that we should hold a meeting with Mr Bani Sadr and Mr Raja'i and investigate the matter thoroughly.

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COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES BRING SECURITY MEASURES

Army on Guard Against Coups

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 17 Jul 80 p 12

[Excerpt] Gen Zahirnezhad, commander of the ground forces and supervisor of the National General Gendarmerie, described his views on other matters related to the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran in an exclusive interview with KEYHAN's political correspondent, while describing the army's countermeasures against attacks by the hireling army of Iraq on our country's border towns.

In response to a question on why the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran was not responding to these attacks, in view of the increase in Iraqi army attacks on our country's border towns, he said, "In this regard first I must inform my beloved compatriots that the Iraqi army has not yet carried out an attack which could constitute a military aggression inside the borders of our country. The Iraqi army attacks have so far taken the form of fire attacks which have been made by airplane and artillery, and thus the response to these attacks has also been given to Iraqi army installations and bases. In an attack some days ago, Iraq was drawn into fire in a counterattack on Iraq's border post. As has been announced numerous times, the Islamic revolution of Iran does not aim at territorial expansion, since, if it did, the revolution would lose its value. Secondly, we are at the present time occupied with the tyrannical imperialist countries of the world, and the people of Iran have driven them out and will drive them out with their will and their bare hands, by resorting to appeals to the creator alone. People who make attacks on this revolution in the form of powers outside other borders are without doubt or hesitation servants of these demonic international imperialist forces. These governments do not have a base among Islamic peoples, in particular the Islamic people of Iraq. We cannot fire on the homes and lives of a number of Moslem brothers in Iraq because of an attack by Saddam Husayn and some of his mercenaries against our country. We are trying to subject that place to attack

by fire where the Moslem people of Iraq are not present. The order has been given that henceforth we are to respond to any Iraqi fire against our installations, though perhaps at much greater volume. It is clear that the goal of the army of Iraq in these attacks is nothing but to help its masters to dominate the lives, property and honor of a Moslem people and continue the dishonorable life of Saddam Husayn and the hireling regime of the Ba'th of Iraq, since it is not possible for a nation to establish tyranny of repression in one part of its border while a group of Moslem people are without knowledge, under the domination of satans, in another group.

"The Islamic revolution, if, God willing, it is realized in Iran, as it will be, will assuredly leave no room for Saddam Husayns."

The commander of the ground forces then referred to the conditions and role of leadership in the triumph of the revolution and to the conspiracy of the counterrevolution, especially American imperialism, to crush our Islamic revolution, and said, "In my opinion, the leader must possess three basic attributes in addition to the other attributes of leadership. First, the leader himself must present himself to the people as a model of opposition to the ruling apparatus, and the people must believe that this is a model of an element which is less frequently found in those opposed to him--otherwise, how could Bakhtiar and the likes of him, who have bowed down before this regime and sworn loyalty to it hundreds of time, not have become the leaders of the people, or those people who beat their breasts with the stone of the former constitution? The second condition is that the leader be the object of trust. The people must make the leader the object of their trust from the time they start to follow him, and this person must be the object of the people's support. If 36 million people do not have trust, they will not give up 70,000 victims. Who now can claim that he is the object of the people's trust to the degree Emam Khomeyni is? The third part of the condition of leadership is possession of material resources. Through a simple review of the history of the world's revolutions, you can see that every revolution which has taken place has been produced from some large financial source. Of course, many countries have held coups d'etat and have called them revolutions, but the material resources of the Iranian revolution were provided by the funds of the pure emams. Of course, this is my opinion, and perhaps many people will not be pleased by it, but the people of Iran, in accordance with their religious beliefs, under the supervision of Emam Khomeyni, spent their charitable alms on religious affairs; they put these funds to use eliminating the material needs of the revolution, and this is the only determining aspect of the Iranian revolution which distinguishes it from the other revolutions of the world--98 percent of which received material support from others." At that point, Gen Zahirnezhad referred to counterrevolution's role and the conspiracy of the superpowers, in cooperation with their domestic personnel, to weaken the revolution, and said, "In order to attain a new government, we have passed through some stages in which all the people were joined and coordinated on behalf of the goals of the revolution.

However, in the meantime, a number of people followed in the path of the revolution until the revolution triumphed, and then, following the course of completion of the revolution, disappeared for various reasons. In other words, they had no part of the revolution. From the ideological standpoint this did not create a problem for the revolution, but a group disappeared from the course of the revolution and stood against this revolution, and we can give them no name except counterrevolution. For example, people who stand against elections on election day and set fire to ballot boxes or disturb them, or try through armed uprisings to cause the Islamic revolution to deteriorate--who now will remove these people from the course of the revolution? Britain or America? No, the force of the revolution must remove them, the force of which the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the gendarmerie and the other legal armed forces are a part as well. When such a situation arises, all revolutionary forces and the army are obliged to remove the stone from the path of the people's revolutionary movement and, if they do not do so, they in fact will have betrayed the revolution and wasted the blood of 70,000 Iranian martyrs. Therefore the person who tells the army to go to the border must realize that the borders are here--the borders between the counterrevolutionary and the revolutionary. For this reason, we consider any obstacle before the movement of the revolution to be a counterrevolutionary obstacle, in accordance with the law, and we consider that striking down its agent, in this period particularly, is one of the lawful duties of all revolutionary forces." He then continued:" The counterrevolutionary movement by domestic enemies emerges in its hireling form at a time when the enemy's foreign forces are also protecting them. You can see the protection of the enemy's foreign forces in the faces of each individual opponent of the revolution. Ask them where these counterrevolutionary forces have obtained all these weapons, arms whose sale and purchase are entirely in the control of governments and whose trade is not permitted. Who is it who has been able in a short time to import 50,000 Kalashnikov automatic weapons into Iran? What superpower is it which has given these weapons to the counterrevolution, has provided its wages and has even defined its objective, whose goal is me and you? The Kurdish, Turkoman, Baluch or Turkish brother who has been deceived and once he gets his hands on a trigger and shoots off 30 rounds with a Kalashnikov, see where he gets his money from. The shell which is bought and sold in Kordestan for 20 tomans each, or the announcements which are published at least three or four times a week throughout the country in colored offset print--who provides these enormous expenses? Is it not truethat these weapons and materials are placed at the disposal of the counterrevolution by America, Israel or the other superpowers?"

Arms Smuggling

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 19 Jul 80 p 3

In our continuing discussions with people's representatives regarding recurring problems in their electoral precincts and the provision of appropriate solutions to alleviate the problems, we sat down for a conversation

this time with Seyyed Mohammad Kazem Danesh, representative of Shusn and Andimeshk. In part of his statement, describing the problems of the area, he said that counterrevolutionary agents are bringing equipment and arms into Iran from Iraq via the border at Shush.

At the start of his statements, Danesh said "Regarding problems in the electoral precincts, I consider it better to describe each one separately. It seems that all of Iran has been destroyed through the blessings of the phoney Pahlavi 'great civilization,' but around Shush, which is one of my electoral areas, some of which is also considered a border area, the problems are many times greater than in the town of Shush. There there are tribes and rural inhabitants who have a special affection for and interest in the emam and the problems which I am raising are the problems of this group of tribes. Their biggest need is potable water, which they lack. There the situation is such that women are sometimes forced to walk more than half a kilometer to fetch water. Of course since last year we have been sending that group a water tank truck so that it can provide some of its daily drinking water but this problem has not been wholly eliminated. In some areas deep wells have also been drilled, the drilling of some wells is also continuing, and, God willing, we hope that we will be able to exploit them as soon as possible. Other problems are the lack of highways, electricity, schools and so forth. As regards the schools, I must state that there is perhaps one school for 30 or 40 villages and again in some areas they even lack a teacher. The town of Shush itself is also faced with many problems and inadequacies, among the most important of which is the lack of a modern adequate communications system. In this town the Department of Communications just consists of two broken down rooms and a branch of communications lines, and this branch of lines is the only means of telephone communication with Andimeshk. Again, in some areas it is cut off. This problem must be eliminated as soon as possible by official parties and through the cooperation of the people, who certainly will cooperate. Of course, on account of the vastness of the area from the standpoint of agriculture and religious pilgrimages, and the fact that it is on the border, this problem possesses great importance. In addition, there are counterrevolutionary persons there and links between those persons and Iraq, and they import weapons and equipment into this town through various means and explosions have also taken place recently. The importance of this matter from the standpoint of communications equipment, especially communications, is apparent. For about 6 years the people of Shush have been trying to have a municipal and inter-city communications system established in this town but so far, since I have been here, no results have been yet realized through these efforts. Of course promises were made in the early part of the revolution and steps were also taken but unfortunately they have not been followed up on. In the Andimeshk area, which is another electoral district of ours, there are also problems in the same general area, some of which are connected to departments and are connected with the question of the purge in the Andimeshk railway. Recently a committee came in for the purge and unfortunately, instead of liquidating unfit elements, we witnessed the liquidation of good, fit people, which in

itself caused problems and discontentment. In another area, the situation in the municipality is not an object of the people's contentment. Likewise the condition of the streets--in particular the fact that the town of Andimeshk has been broken up into two segments by railway tracks and these two segments are linked by a street which passes over the railway tracks. Severe accidents have always occurred and are occurring at that point. Another of the most important problems of the people of Andimeshk is the cultural problem, since the people of this town at the present time are deprived of the presence of an informed, committed, literate clerical figure and have not had a Friday emam for some time. It is necessary that the academic community or the teachers' society send a committed cleric and manager to this area both to perform the Friday prayer and engage in the religious affairs of the people, and also to be able to create a religious and cultural base, since little atheistic and receptive groups are now active there. Of course good committed young Moslem people are also there, and they must be nurtured."

Arms Cache for Coup

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 19 Jul 80 p 3

Large amounts of arms and materiel which were to have been used in a coup d'etat conspiracy, along with proclamations by the persons plotting the coup, were discovered in the basement of the home of a retired police colonel by the guards of the regional committee in part of Shemran.

This person, named Col Amir Hushang Nur, is currently in hiding. This person's son was arrested by the guards of Region One Committee and is being questioned.

In his speech which took place after the disclosure of the unsuccessful coup d'etat attempt, Emam Khomeyni referred to the large volumes of arms and equipment discovered and seized in a Shemran home by guards.

As the nation's emam described it in his statement, this event occurred when the guards of the Region One Committee of Shemran became suspicious that this house was a place of gambling, and went there to close the place of gambling down. Inside the courtyard of the house, a dog rushed at one of the guards, and that guard went into the basement of the house and in order to save himself from the danger of the dog and came up against large amounts of arms, materiel, other military equipment, and large amounts of announcements which had been signed by the Military Council of the Iranian Nation in the basement.

The text of the declarations obtained in the basement of that house is as follows:

"Beloved compatriots: the promised hour has come, the patriotic army of Iran has uprooted the filthy government of prelates and all the units of

the army, the gendarmerie and the police have declared their solidarity. Any resistance will be severely crushed. Be prepared to receive orders.

"Military Council of the Iranian Nation."

Way in Which the House Was Discovered

In a conversation with KEYHAN's correspondent in Shemran, the guards of the Committee of Region One of Shemran described the way in which the site in which the arms were concealed with the abovementioned declarations was discovered as follows:

Some time before, the guards of the Committee of Shemran Region One became suspicious of the comings and goings of a group in the Za'faranieh area and then received information that some military uniforms had been taken into a house situated in Za'faranieh. In another area, questionable comings and goings at this house made the guards think that the visitors were not just going to the place to gamble. Finally they entered the house to investigate. At the beginning the son of the owner of the place opened the door and when the guards said they intended to investigate he guided them through the basement to the to, floor of the building. During this period, as the guards were engaged in investigating the house, a dog suddenly attacked the guards and one of the guards withdrew to the basement window so that his clothes would not get in contact with the dog, intending through this act to investigate the inside of the basement from outside. He noticed weapons in the basement and informed the other guards of the occurrence after investigating the ground. The people present in the house were immediately arrested and help was requested from the other units of the committee. After the basement was broken into, a large number of items, hand grenades, military uniforms, three-colored flags and a large amount of declarations were discovered. All the materiel and arms discovered were handed over to the competent officials after an inventory of the session.

The figures on the weapons and objects discovered in this storage areas are as follows:

Eighty-one different items of weaponry, 18 hand grenades, 216 Uzi cartridge clips, 8,000 rounds, 500 military uniforms, 2,000 three-colored flags, 10,000 copies of a declaration, five large wire and cable cutting shears, 53 small flashlights, one infrared light, eight bullhorns and a package of dynamite.

Special Anti-coup Staff

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 13 Jul 80 p 2

Hojjatoleslam Fazlollah Mahallati, Emam Khomeyni's representative in the army of guards, participated today in an exclusive interview with PARS NEWS

AGENCY's correspondent and described the manner in which the latest plot was carried out and the status of the army of guards. He pointed out that the army of guards is the army of the Islamic revolution and that all Islamic rules must rule the army. Anyone who deviates from these Islamic rules will be expelled from the army.

Hojjatoleslam Mahallati said, "Following the assignment from the emam, we got in touch with various officials and members of the army and through the investigation I carried out in the course of a week I conveyed the inadequacies to the emam."

Reverring to the point that there are many chaste, self-sacrificing, devoted people in the army and that if they did not exist our revolution would not have borne fruit, Hojjatoleslam Mahallati added, "There is some lack of discipline in the army, and that is an important problem. Sometimes people are arrested without permission from the public prosecutor or official persons, sometimes some people in the army spend money or perform acts which are outside the limits of their duties, and this activity will be strictly combatted."

Referring to the point that the army sometimes acts alone and does not make use of the other armed forces, which sometimes results in the death of guards themselves, he added, "One thing I did in the west of the country was that we in the Province Insurance Council undertook to have no organ or body of the armed forces act alone. They would prepare their plan in advance and would break responsibilities down among themselves, and no one would depart from his duty. They also put this program into operation in the Central Security Council, in the attendance of the president; every act and struggle which occurs is to take place with the cooperation of the armed forces, and it was through this coordination that we were able to neutralize this dangerous plot, with God's will and the aid of our upright brothers in the air force and army, central council and Islamic council brothers. Therefore, this is our plan, that the army should cooperate with everyone and not depart from the limits of its duties and that no armed force should take any kind of selfish attitude. If a person or group carries out a program alone it will immediately be subject to prosecution and punishment."

In response to the question "It has been said that some members of the staff took part in the arrest of Mr Baqeri--what is your view on this matter?" Hojjatoleslam Mahallati said "I have not yet investigated this matter but, as they have informed me, the army did not arrest him; some members of the Islamic Society of the air force carried out this program."

Hojjatoleslam Mahallati added, "By orders of the president, a staff has been formed for this subject from all the security organs, one of which is the army of guards, the committee, the air force, and the others, and all information must be given to this staff. Any organ it is given to must give the information to the staff. It is the staff which will take

a decision concerning the arrest of an individual. Regarding his arrest and that of Sadiqi, so far as I have heard, and I have got in touch with the staff, the staff had no information. Since this activity took place without the knowledge of the staff, they gave the order that they should not oppose them and if there is positive evidence regarding any person there will not be the slightest doubt regarding him. Therefore, in matters of this sort which arise, no guard, whether he is from the army, from the committee or from the Islamic societies, will have the right to arrest anyone unless an order is issued by that staff itself. If they do this, and even if they are right, they themselves will be arrested on grounds of committing a violation."

Governors' Powers Increased

Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 5 Jul 80 p 14

The bill on the law on the powers of the governors general of the country was ratified by the Revolutionary Council on 19 June.

In accordance with this law, the governors general will be presented to the Council of State by the minister of the interior and, following appointment to the area of jurisdiction of their assignment, will be considered the highest representative of the state in their area of jurisdiction and will be responsible for carrying out the general policy of the government there. The text of the bill on the law on the powers of the governors general is as follows:

Article 1. As of the date of the ratification of this law, the governors general will be presented by the minister of the interior to the council of State and, following the approval of their appointment, a writ of governor generalcy will be issued by the cabinet, signed by the president, prime minister and minister of the interior.

Article 2. The governors general will be considered the highest representative of the state in the area of jurisdiction of their assignment, will be responsible for implementation of the general policy of the state in the area of their assignment, and will have full, supreme oversight over all the executive matters of the province.

Note 1. The governors general can engage in the investigation of government organizations and departments and, if they have opinions regarding the affairs of these units, may render judgment with the cooperation of the director of chief of the unit involved.

In the event the issue is not resolved in the capital of the province, the governors general may conduct discussions with the minister to whom the unit is subordinate and resolve the issue. The minister in charge will, after the necessary investigations into the governor general's report, implement the requisite measures.

Note 2. In the event the case is not resolved in the above manner, the governors general will submit the issue to the minister of the interior, the minister of the interior will raise the issue in cabinet, and the cabinet's decision will be conveyed to the governors general for implementation.

Article 3. In order to supervise and oversee radio and television programs in full, the governors general may appoint a representative to the radio and television organization of the province. This representative will be considered the representative of the government.

Article 4. In order to coordinate the measures of government departments and organizations, and the revolutionary and social bodies in each province, with the general policy of the state, and in order to strengthen these bodies, the governors general may, at any time they consider it necessary, form joint sessions composed of the relevant managers, chiefs and persons in charge and other persons they deem necessary. In case of need they will place the necessary information at the disposal of the people.

Article 5. Preserving the order, security and welfare of the people and general calm in every province through the Insurance Council will be the duty of the governor general. In addition to this, providing supplies, general provisions and careful surveillance over the implementation of construction, renovation and improvement programs in the towns, villages and so forth, through the councils of competent agencies, will be among the duties of the governors general.

Note. The governors general must encourage people and organizations to establish companies and engage in public works and similar matters.

Note 2. The purge of departments, organizations and companies belonging to the government will be carried out in accordance with the laws, through consultation with and surveillance by the governors general.

Article 6. The government departments and representatives sent out by the ministries and other government and national organs concerning issues which bear on general policy or have importance in terms of local policy must perform their duties with the knowledge and guidance of the governor general.

/Signed/ Seyyed Abol Hasan Bani Sadr, president and chairman of the Islamic Revolutionary Council of Iran.

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BAHRAIN LIBERATION FRONT MEMBER DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH IRAN

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 19 Jul 80 p 4

/Article: "The Islamic Revolution Is Being Exported: Acquaintance with the Islamic Revolution in Bahrain"/

/Text/ The triumph of the Islamic revolution of Iran has had a great, profound influence on all the downtrodden peoples of the world, in particular the Moslem peoples of the region. Proceeding from Africa and Asia to Latin America, and from the Far East to the Near East and Middle East, from Afghanistan and Iraq to Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, everyone considers that this revolution is the vanguard of his victory and considers that its great leader and commander is his sole commander. Among them, a nation such as Bahrain, which has a very profound historic and cultural link with Iran, and until a few years ago was considered a member of Iran's body, enjoys a very large degree of acceptance and influence from our revolution. In this connection, in order to bring the voice of these deprived, tyrannized people to the ears of our Iranian brothers and sisters, we arranged an interview with two brother representatives of the Islamic Liberation Front of Bahrain, which you may read as follows:

/Question/ All in all, how do you view the current conditions in Bahrain and the conditions of the Islamic revolution of the people of Bahrain?

/Answer/ The conditions of Bahrain have not yet changed in any way, are just like the conditions of 200 years ago, since at that time, when it was under British colonialism, and later when it became independent so to speak, the same Pharaohs have always governed in Bahrain in the form of al-Khalifah and the family of al-Khalifah, but just in different forms. Fire and iron, killing and torture, and mass arrests have always been imposed on the deprived, tyrannized people of Bahrain. The only thing which has changed is that methods have changed and have become more advanced with the progress of time! The government of al-Khalifah, with the cooperation of America, the British, the bloody regime in Iraq and Pakistani, Jordanian

and Saudi mercenaries, in addition to fugitive Savak members from the regime of the deposed Shah, are crushing every kind of liberation movement in the most severe way.

The slightest demonstrations meet with mass killing and arrests. Even a number of religious young people who are working in a benevolent fund by the name of the al-Husayn Social Fund are being kept in the worst conditions in prisons. However, in spite of all that, there is an intense revolutionary state among the people of the downtrodden nation of Bahrain. Demonstrations are constantly being held for any excuse. The demonstrations which were held on the occasion of the martyrdom of Ayatollah Sadr were very significant. Of course, a very large number were arrested, and one of the best active, religious young men of Bahrain was martyred. The people made an attack, removed the body of this martyr and took it to the mosque. The following day a splendid funeral was held for him.

/Question/ What is your opinion about the parties and societies which are active in Bahrain against the government?

/Answer/ Previously, about 15 years ago, there were some left wing parties active on the scene in Bahrain, such as the Bahraini National Liberation Front, which was Russian, and the "People's Front," which was Maoist, because there was no Islamic thinking. However, they in no had a popular base, but, because of the political climate then, because of the presence of British colonialism, anti-popular activities, and the extreme poverty, suppression and pressure the people endured, attention was given to these two parties in very small measure. To some extent they managed to attract people's thoughts. However, after the people learned the nature of these parties, they turned back toward the true Islam. They became aware that it is only Islam which can achieve their proper demands at any time and in any place.

About 12 years ago an Islamic front was formed and began activity in a broad context. However, until the triumph of the Islamic revolution of Iran, this front's activity was hidden and the Islamic front for the liberation of Bahrain declared the existence openly immediately following the triumph in Iran.

/Question/ Bahrain openly declared its existence /sic/--who are the leaders of this front and how do they think, from the ideological standpoint?

/Answer/ The leaders of this front are Islamic and Shiite and the dominant idea is the unificationist idea of Islam. Of course four committed Moslem revolutionary clerics are also in leadership positions in this front.

The ideological thinking of the people of Bahrain is totally Islamic, and leftist ideas and leftist parties have been entirely eliminated. About 95 percent of the people of Bahrain are Moslem, twelve Shiites, and a much more important fact is that the people possess a very high political

development and religious differences are in no way at issue at the present time. Recently a society and movement by name of "The Islamic Society Movement," who are among Sunnite brethren, declared their existence and the aim of this society is also just to fight against the dictatorial regime of Bahrain under the flag of Islam. They also call for unity between Shiites and Sunnites, but the regime is trying to sow disputes between these two groups.

/Question/ What is the nature of cooperation between the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain and other parties, inside or outside your country?

/Answer/ We are ready to cooperate with all Islamic parties and groups which have deep-rooted faith in the path of genuine Islam, are fighting against satanic regimes and against oppression and tyranny, and are on neither an eastern nor a western path, and we are in cooperation with some parties. We wholly believe that all the downtrodden people of the world must believe in the leadership of Emam Khomeyni and accept this leadership in heart and soul. The Moslem people of Bahrain are among them, and this is wholly clear from the demonstrations and slogans they make. Therefore we cooperate with all peoples who are on this path and this belief.

/Question/ What is your opinion about Mr Qotbzadeh and the status of the Iranian embassy in Bahrain?

/Answer/ The visit by Qotbzadeh, as the foreign minister and representative of a revolutionary Moslem country, to the reactionary colonial country of Bahrain has had a very negative effect on the people of Bahrain.

Qotbzadeh made a visit to this country at a time when American airplanes were taking off from it to make a military attack on Iran and Israeli aircraft had also taken over all Bahrain's airports. Qotbzadeh, going by h's own statement, was bringing a message from the emam to the caliph of Bahrain, but in my opinion this subject is completely lacking in truth; the emam does not do such things. The news that reached us was that Mr Qotbzadeh's visit was cancelled after it had been ratified by the Revolutionary Council but he made the visit anyway.

The status of the Iranian embassy in Bahrain is still satanic. Agents of Savak and the Shah's regime are still busy there. Of course I am saying that Qotbzadeh's visit was cancelled, since we talked with Mr Ahmad Khomeyni and he promised that this visit had been cancelled. The Moslem people of Bahrain put glorious demonstrations in movement during those days to protest America's military attack on Iran.

/Question/ What do you say about the effect the Iranian revolution has left in Bahrain?

/Answer/ As I explained before, the Moslem people of Bahrain accept only the leadership of the emam. In our demonstrations, we gave the slogan "Khomeyni, go forward, go forward, for today is the day of the people." Any house you go to people have certainly put up the emam's picture. The prime minister of Bahrain, in a conversation with a British magazine, stated "The most important column protesting us has fallen," he was extremely uncomfortable. Similarly, the prime minister of Bahrain has openly asked aid from Iraq, so that if the state of revolution in Bahrain progresses Iraq will immediately intervene.

/Question/ At present, what countries are helping the government of Bahrain crush the people?

/Answer/ The Ba'th regime of Iraq is cooperating intensely, to the point where Iraqi intelligence is free to do anything it wishes in Bahrain. Security officials of Bahrain and policemen are mostly Iraqi, Saudi Arabian, Jordanian, Pakistani and Israeli. Out of Bahrain's population of 500,000, we have 200,000 foreigners! Most of them are in the police, army and security agencies. The commander of the naval bases is an American.

After Iraq, the first country which fell under the influence of the Islamic revolution of Iran was Bahrain. Immediately on hearing the news of the triumph of the Iranian revolution, all the people poured into the streets and held demonstrations, parties and joyous celebrations. The state of absorption in news of Iran among the people of Bahrain is amazing. All homes listen to Radio Iran and Iranian television. Now all the demands of the people of Bahrain are Iranian demands. On Jerusalem Day many glorious demonstrations were held in Bahrain, unparalleled in any Arab or Islamic country. It is in these conditions that an American official said that Bahrain is in a complicated and overall fearful situation. For the same reason the emam's representative in Bahrain was arrested and then banished. Putting up pictures of the emam and listening to Radio Iran have been declared completely illegal. Anyone acting in violation is immediately arrested and tortured.

/Question/ Could you give a description about the economic conditions of the people of Bahrain?

/Answer/ Bahrain, because of its important geographical position and its strategic position, has considerable importance for America and Europe from the economic and political standpoint. In Bahrain, especially after the war in Lebanon, we have about 42 foreign and international banks. The regime is a capitalist regime in every sense. The Emir of Bahrain, members of his family (the ruling family), the ministers and a few limited individuals enjoy extremely great wealth, but the majority of the people of Bahrain live in poverty and squalor. There is downtroddenness in Bahrain in the true meaning of the word. Inflation is oppressive, unemployment has reached its peak, and the cutoff of electricity and water goes on for hours. Of

course these things just concern the deprived people of the nation. Except for them, inflation has no meaning to people and cutoffs of water and electricity and similar matters do not in any way involve their families. Oil is plentiful in Bahrain and if the oil money were to be allocated it would be a thousand times greater than the needs of the people. Of course, it is all in the hands of the foreign companies. Pearls and coral used to be produced in large quantities and were a great resource themselves, but their production has been declared forbidden and they are gradually burying their marine sources.

From the standpoint of agriculture, Bahrain was famous as the land of life, but now all of our goods are imported. Bahrain is full of foreign goods, especially as regards cloth and clothes, which are exported to Iran in large quantities. However, the government recently prohibited Iranian launches from approaching Bahrain. This was out of fear of the entry of the Islamic revolution into Bahrain.

/Question/ What evaluation do you have on the triumph of the revolution of Bahrain and the overthrow of its regime?

/Answer/ Its regime is very flimsy. To the contrary, the will and desire of the nation is powerful and strong. The regime, which views the regime of the Shah as its guardian and lord and master, is a corrupt regime and, God willing, will soon fall.

/Question/ What is the number of prisoners in Bahrain?

/Answer/ The number of prisoners is greater than 1,200. Among them are religious scholars, 10 women, and the rest mostly committed, enthusiastic young Moslems who are subjected to the worst torture. Let me mention that imprisoning women in Bahrain, according to the customs they have, is a very serious, intolerable act for the Moslem people of Bahrain, though recently they have been putting women and girls in prison, including one committed, religious sister who is also a powerful speaker and has had an effective role in guiding girls, name of Sister Sadiqah al-Musawi.

/Question/ Could you describe military matters in Bahrain and the volume of American interference in these issues?

/Answer/ The Bahrain military bases, one in al-Muharraq (air and ground) and one in al-Junayr (naval), are both entirely American and all the personnel in them are American. There are about 15,000 military personnel in Bahrain, from soldiers to military advisors, and America made abundant use of the Bahrain bases in its latest attack on Iran. Four days before the military intervention, the prime minister held meeting and conversation with the commander of the naval forces, who is America, and also held talks with the commander of the vessels present in the Persian Gulf.

/Question/ In conclusion, what is your message to the Iranian people, as the representative of a fraternal people?

/Answer/ Our message to the Iranian people would be to consider that this nation has entered a great Islamic revolution and is considered a big brother which has acquired a very good experience for us. Our message is on the basis of the federation of nations. Our only message to the Iranian nation is to open its arms to the deprived, downtrodden peoples of the world, become acquainted with their conditions, conduct investigations into the oppressions they endure and show a decisive reaction. Our message to the beloved people of Iran is to build a bridge between Iran and the peoples who are rising up. Another message from us is that we request them always to commit themselves to the emam's leadership and never forget their emam, their leader, and their valuable revolution, not just through slogans but through deeds, so that they will be performing their mission. Another important issue which I would like to state to the Iranian people, as a request and message, is that they never weaken the officials. If they make mistakes, they should mention it, correct their views, insist to the officials and also try, themselves, to export the Islamic Iranian revolution, since it does not belong to them themselves, so that the hopes of downtrodden people may be realized through the leadership of Emam Khomeyni. Another matter which I want to mention to the Iranian brothers, is that the mass media not state the news of the revolution of Bahrain and other revolutions and if they do convey news or convey mistakes or deficient news, we hope that all the Moslems of the world will be united and victorious in attaining a single worldwide Islamic government.

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BALUCHI RELIGIOUS LEADER ASKS TEHRAN RECOGNITION OF SUNNI LAWS

LD091025 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 2 Sep 80 p 15

[Interview with Mowlavi Mosleheddin Salehi, Imam Jomeh of Sarbaz, Iranshahr by KEYHAN "Political Correspondent": "The Baluchis Will Defend The Islamic Republic to the Last Drop of Blood"; date and place not specified]

[Excerpt] "A number of evil-doers and bandits whose interests were threatened after the Islamic Revolution and who are in contact with agents of the former regime and foreigners on the border between Iran and Pakistan are creating unrest and disturbance and terrifying the people." "The people of Baluchestan want the military forces, including the gendarmerie and the guards corps, to go into action as soon as possible and extirpate these corrupt elements."

The above remarks were made by a theologian from Baluchestan, Imam Jomeh of a Sarbaz, Iranshahr, during an exclusive interview with the KEYHAN political correspondent. He continued:

"The people of Baluchestan have a particular affection for the Imam and the Islamic Revolution and they wish to apply the Imam's concept of equal rights for Sunnis and Shi'ites to the whole of Iran, particularly Baluchestan. Remember that Baluchestan has a special geographical situation. Imperialism is trying to inflict damage on the Islamic Republic by penetrating this sensitive area.

"In addition, since the Sunnis are in the majority in Baluchistan, foreigners wish to set the region ablaze by creating a climate of division, war and fighting between Shi'a and Sunni. For this reason, both the Islamic Consultative Assembly and the Islamic Republic Government must translate the Imam's concept of the constitution into action, and give consideration to supplementary provisions to Article 12 of the constitution, and submit this to public referendum.

"In accordance with a decree by the Imam, Dr Yazdi traveled to this area about a year ago to investigate conditions in Sistan and Baluchestan, and following his inspection of the region he submitted a report to the Imam, which both the Imam and the Revolutionary Council approved. The demand of

the people, as reflected in the report, was that the laws of the Sunni religion be officially recognized by the courts, and that action should follow on that basis. As I said, most Baluchis are Sunnis and they wish to enjoy equal rights with their Shi'ite brethren. In order to implement this, our first request is that the Sunni religion be recognized as official by the constitution, and then for our religious laws to apply."

On the subject of the influence of foreigners in Baluchestan, Mowlavi Salehi said: "There is no doubt that certain persons are .. work keeping Baluchestan in a state of unrest. These elements keep coming and going between Pakistan and Iranian Baluchestan, but rest assur[ed] hat they will never achieve their shameful ends, since the Baluchis, m[en] and women, young and old, will resist in defending the Islamic Republic of Iran to the last drop of their blood; and, anyway, we are Muslims and prepared to die as martyrs in the defense of Islam and the homeland. The Muslim people of Baluchestan are now on full alert to forestall any sort of adventurism on the part of counterrevolutionaries in the province."

As to how security might be established in the region, he said: "In order to bring about stability and security in the region, above all else, the forces of the gendarmerie and the guards corps should be reinforced in the border zone, so that they can stop the penetration of the area by elements supporting foreign powers. Everyone should know that most of the unrest is the work of evil-doers who come and go freely between Pakistan and Iranian Baluchestan. Therefore, if they are stopped, I can promise a 100-percent return of security in Baluchestan. Meanwhile, if good and experienced individuals are employed in the gendarmerie and the guards corps, they will be able to control the border zone by prudent and correct methods and to stop the insecurity which sometimes affects this area."

CSO: 4906

BANI-SADR'S OFFICE INFORMS PUBLIC ON OPPOSITION GROUPS

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 2 Sep 80 p 15

[Text] Tehran, PARS News Agency--The following statement was released by President-People Liaison Office last night:

"In the Name of God,

"Dear Muslim Brothers and Sisters,

"As you are aware, this is not the first time that when our nation is poised for making historic decisions under most sensitive circumstances, certain groups, factions and currents have attempted, by means of systematic, multi-faceted and far-reaching attacks and by salvos of aspersions and invectives, to drag us into disputes and counterattacks, but each time we have refrained from reacting to such set-up episodes.

Our silence, however, is not one of acquiescence and appeasement. When the enemy tries to cause you to cry, silence is the most effective weapon for combating that kind of enemy. It is the method with the Shi'ites emulating Ali [i.e. the first Imam of the Shi'ites and the son-in-law of Prophet Mohammad] have learned from him.

Lately, while the people, the Majles and the popularly elected president are entangled in efforts to select the cabinet ministers, a new uproar has flared up against us in the wake of the previous attacks and aspersions. As an example, we can cite the statement by the Sazeman-e Mojahedin-e Enqelab-e Eslami [The Islamic Revolutionary Militants Organization] about the cabinet. It would be appropriate here to remind that the said statement was broadcast on several occasions by the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in tandem with a matching commentary written by the commentators of the "Knowing Time." Now it is open to question what was the underlying motives of the writers of the statement in repeating the themes which have already been harped frequently. It is our belief that they try to engage the people in such a way that the society will tend to neglect the right which is about to be usurped from it. The fact of the matter is that the nation

has elected the president so that he may select the prime minister and the cabinet ministers in accordance with the express letter of the constitution. Of course, the constitution stipulates at the same time that these officials shall have to be approved by the Islamic Consultative Assembly so that the government is empowered to make provisions for the enforcement of the constitution by way of ensuring the required coordination among the various mechanisms. This is the fact that militates against their collective interests at any rate. The posing of any problem designed to draw a herring across the eyes of the public to detract them from watchful supervision over the implementation of the constitution would be considered by us to be the machination of the "malicious savants" or that of the ignorant stooges of the enemy. We assure you that we will preserve our aplomb and silence in this situation no matter how wildly they revile us.

In conclusion we remind that under the present circumstance and in such an atmosphere it is only natural for us to analyze their efforts, motives, schemes and actions. [According to the Koran] Blessed are those devouts who tread the straight path without haughtiness and those who merely utter greetings (Salaam) when accosted by the ignorant. Those who evince fortitude and perseverance shall be rewarded with a lofty position where they shall be hailed with greetings and well-wishing.

9695
CSO: 4906

BAKHTIAR, GEN OVEYSI MEET NEAR VERSAILLES

Paris NAME-YE RUZ in Persian 25 Aug 80 p 1

[Text] The SUNDAY TIMES newspaper reported on its front page yesterday that confidential talks took place in the vicinity of Versailles between former Iranian Army Commander Field Marshall Oveysi and the Prime Minister of the ousted shah, Shapur Bakhtiar. The newspaper added that the basic subject of the talks was military strategy for overthrowing Ayatollah Khomeyni, forming a post-Khomeyni government, and returning monarchical power to Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi, the oldest child of the ousted shah.

After the defeat of the recent military coup d'etat plot, it was said that Shapur Bakhtiar aligned himself with General Oveysi's supporters, and his recent meetings with Oveysi are seen by observers as an indication of his total unity with Oveysi's group.

9310
CSO: 4906

INTELLIGENCE SERVICE NETWORK 'REVEALED'

Paris NAME-YE RUZ in Persian 25 Aug 80 p 1

[Text] Radio Tehran announced that the Islamic Revolutionary Guards of Esfahan have uncovered a spy network in this city following comprehensive research and extensive activities. Documents and evidence have come to hand from this spy network, known as the Osqofi ring and having personnel in the cities of Yazd, Kerman, Shiraz and Tehran, which included Iranian military secrets and apparatus that denote the Osqofi spy ring.

In connection with the recent sinister coup d'etat, evidence has also come to hand that documents the transfer of 500 million American dollars to the Osqofi ring of Esfahan and 300 tons of TNT explosives for distribution among a number of Army personnel, the Bahai group and the counterrevolutionary groups. At the present time a number of members of this group who are foreign nationals, along with their Iranian colleagues in this network, have been arrested.

Radio Iran said it is necessary to remember that the Osqofi ring of Iran in Esfahan, under the command of Osqof Hassan Dehqani Farari, who is also in command of Osqofi of Jerusalem and the Middle East, has benefitted from the services of such veteran and long-time spies as Father Iraj Mottahedeh Yahudi, who came from the Anglican priesthood, and who is in detention now.

The aforesaid individual, after spending periods of time in Israel and England, spent 35 years in the service of the Osqofi ring, working in the cities of Tehran, Esfahan and Shiraz.

This center is regarded as one of the most important spy bases attached to the Intelligence Service, so that according to evidence that has come to hand, when the Islamic Revolution of Iran was victorious, the CIA spy organization extended an offer to help to the spies of the Osqofi ring in a letter, and it will be remembered that the CIA and the Intelligence Service are long-time allies.

9310
CSO: 4906

RAFSANJANI: WE WILL HELP ERITREA LIBERATION ORGANIZATION

Paris NAME-YE RUZ in Persian 25 Aug 80 p 7

[Text] The representative of the Eritrea Liberation Organization met and talked yesterday with Hojjatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani. After referring to Hojjatoleslam Rafsanjani's election and wishing him well as Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, and after reporting on the situation in Eritrea, he said:

After the triumph of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, which is really considered a victory for the people of Eritrea, the people of Eritrea have the same feeling about the Islamic Revolution of Iran that the people of Iran have about their revolution, especially since the ousted shah had very close relations with the Ethiopian regime and the people of Eritrea suffered because of this. Even Iranian aircraft bombarded Eritrea during the time of the ousted shah. Our revolutionaries, after the occupation of the spy nest by the Moslem Students Following the Line of the Imam, upon the severing of Iranian-American relations by the Islamic Revolution of Iran, announced their readiness and were prepared to fight alongside their brothers in Iran against America.

Iran's victory over its problems and difficulties is a victory for us and our people. The people of Eritrea expect the revolution of Iran to defend and back their revolt and to stand beside the revolutionaries of Eritrea in order to liberate the land under Ethiopian occupation.

He said the Eritrea Liberation Organization is the only legal representative of the people of Eritrea, and the people are interested in it and back it. The people of Eritrea are not ready to submit to the domination or power of any ruler.

Then Hojjatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, while thanking the representative of the Eritrea Liberation Organization for his good wishes, said: We are concerned about the people of Eritrea. We consider America, Russia and Ethiopia culpable and condemned, and despite great distance and separation, we are ready to help.

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CSO: 4906

BBC CITED ON QOTBZADEH'S FUTURE

Paris NAME-YE RUZ in Persian 9 Aug 80 p 9

[Text] Last night BBC said that while the Islamic Republican Party continues to strengthen and consolidate its domination and political influence in Iran, one of the targets of their recent attacks, Sadeq Qotbzadeh, Iranian foreign minister, has again stated that he has no intention whatsoever to hold a position in the future Iranian government.

Sadeq Qotbzadeh, who has in recent weeks been attacked by the Islamic Republican Party for Iran's foreign policy and a lack of revolutionary zeal and excitement, yesterday strongly defended himself in front of the Majles. He said that in accordance with expectations, Iran's foreign policy during his tutelage was unwaveringly in Ayatollah Khomeyni's line and had tendencies neither in an eastern nor western direction. However, he added, unfortunately Iran, 13 months after the revolution, has still not chosen a clear and precise foreign policy.

Qotbzadeh then defended the statement which he made in Paris immediately after on the attempt on the life of Shapur Bakhtiar, former prime minister. In this statement he had said that the Iranian government neither had any information about the course of this assassination nor approved of it.

Qotbzadeh then came under harsh criticism from the Islamic Republican Party extremists for making this statement. He said yesterday in this regard that a law could be passed in the Majles which would give Iran the right to attack anyone in any corner of the world; however, if such a law were approved, foreign countries would then have to decide whether or not to continue relations with Iran.

The last declarations of Qotbzadeh and the Islamic Republican Party's implicit criticism of them, and Qotbzadeh's decision not to perform a role in Iran's new government and thus the Islamic Republican government, make it clear that he will not attain another position.

Qotbzadeh is not alone in this respect. One month ago Admiral Madani accused the Islamic Republican Party of planning to form a one-party country in Iran. At the beginning of the present week the Majles with a very noteworthy majority decided to reject Admiral Madani's credentials as a Majles member and now demands his arrest and trial. In reality Madani had decided to refrain from participation in the Majles. He had previously entirely rejected the procedure by which the credentials of Majles deputies who were freely elected by the people were subjected to investigation.

Admiral Madani resembles many politicians who in the first stage supported the Iranian revolution but who have gradually become discouraged by the direction that the revolution is taking.

9597
CSO: 4906

RUMORS ON PLAN AND BUDGET ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION DENOUNCED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 16 Aug 80 p 3

[Article: "Plan and Budget Organization Deputy: Rumors on Plan and Budget Organization Dissolution Are for Destroying the Basis of Order and Equilibrium"]

> [Text] The Deputy of the Plan and Budget Organization, following some rumors concerning the dissolution of this organization, answered these rumors and some questions during an interview, and clarified the views of the above organization concerning the country's economic problems.

Deputy al-Sabahi, concerning the country's distressed economic condition, while alluding to our one-commodity economy, the lack of sufficient production, lack of capital investment, stagnation, unemployment and rapid inflation, and on top of everything, unjust income distribution, took up its most important feature, saying: A problem related to all these distress factors is the lack of unified management in the economic organization of our society. This stems from the multiplicity of power centers and special day-to-day problems, which leads us to the conclusion that our country's economic crisis cannot find economic solutions under current conditions before political solutions are applied.

Concerning 18 months of government revenues, he added that our country's revenues for 18 months have been based mostly on consumption and dependence. Due to decreased production and capital investment and greater stagnation, we satisfied all our needs with oil revenues. Even all our creative, ideological and religious movements began with a reliance on petroleum income. For example, the waging of the holy struggle began in practice with a reliance on oil wells, while to our minds a holy war is a religious and spiritual movement.

Continuing his remarks, while explaining the planning process and its importance for economic stability and health, he expressed regret that most ideas, suggestions and planning proposals have not been usable until now as expected and as necessity requires because of contradiction, conflict and fragmentation between executive powers. He added: Concerning the lack of planning

discipline and putting a stop to it in the noble nation of Iran, we are reminded and we proclaim that "there is no way to move away from backwardness and dependence without comprehensive planning."

In one part of his speech he said: The act of weakening the Plan and Budget Organization through continuous strikes and attacks, and rumors of this organization's dissolution, are circulating for the purpose of sidetracking the last stronghold of order and equilibrium. He then referred to the role of the organization, saying:

The Plan and Budget Organization is a coordinator of proposals, plans, policies and methods. In short, it balances society's acceptable expectations and arranges for society's acceptance. Without this effort the load of problems will vastly increase beyond what it is now. The continuation of this crisis will put every plan in jeopardy.

9310
CSO: 4900

STUDENTS EXPELLED FROM UK GREETED AT TEHRAN AIRPORT

LD120408 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0114 GMT 12 Sep 80

[Unattributed Commentary]

[Text] The reason for the closure of the British Embassy in Tehran has been made public. Following the Iranian authorities' warnings to the British Government and after the expulsion of the first batch of Muslim students, the British Foreign Office recalled to London its charge d'affaires and all other diplomats in Tehran, except one. Now the British Embassy in Tehran is closed. The British authorities said: We have deemed it essential to recall our diplomats from Tehran because of the present difficult and unpredictable phase in our relations with Iran.

On the other hand, the Pars News Agency reported that the two Muslim Iranian students, accompanied by the 3-year-old child and British wife of one of the brothers, who had left Britain, arrived in Tehran at 0230. Thousands of Muslim sisters and brothers from Tehran, who had been given only a few hours notice of the arrival of these crusaders, assembled at Mehrabad Airport and chanted slogans in an extremely orderly manner, paying tribute to the students defending the Islamic Revolution who had been expelled from Britain.

The Islamic nation's auspicious rally, while sending greetings to Imam Khomeyni and backing the struggles of the Muslim Iranian students, identified the British police as the stooges of U.S. imperialism and world zionism. The British wife of one of the expelled brothers, who was carrying in her arms her 3-year-old child, told the Pars News Agency correspondent: The British police behaved inhumanly against us when we were demonstrating quite peacefully against the United States; and we reject any charges of assaulting the British police or of obstruction. This British Muslim, whose expulsion order had been signed by the British home secretary for the crime of defending the Islamic Revolution and backing Imam Khomeyni, then continued: At a time when several British policemen are caught committing the crime of burglarizing a department store one could draw one's conclusion about the truth of the depositions made by such safeguarders of law and order. She termed ludicrous the Western puppet press accusations that the students had received money from Iran in order to stage demonstrations.

In another part of this interview an expelled Muslim brother said: We will continue our struggle until our other Muslim sisters and brothers are released from the prison of the British fascist police. He continued: The British police are definitely unsuccessful and we will give a full report to the Imam of the Islamic nation and to our martyr-nurturing nation.

As to the British police's behavior toward the jailed students, the same expelled brother said: Their behavior was utterly brutal; we spent over 30 days in tiny cells in conditions of the utmost squalor and indignity.

The British wife of the same Muslim crusader then said that the British police had behaved in an utterly inhuman manner to her husband, that the demonstrators had never assaulted the police and that the charge of assaulting the police was nothing but a tissue of lies without foundation.

Another of our brothers, whose deportation order had been issued by the British puppet courts for the crime of taking photographs, said: In a cell where a number of us were detained we did not have enough room even to sit down and they kept pumping extremely foul and polluted air into our cells. So in order to make the surrounding air breathable we kept wetting our shirts in the toilet and wiping our faces with them. As to the accusation that we received money from the Iranian Government in order to stage demonstrations, the same brother said: What else could they say--thieving police, a number of whom, according to the guardian, were arrested a week ago for the crime of burglarizing--could they possibly say anything else to please their master, the United States? How else could they prove to the United States that they are good servants?

A Muslim brother who said that he had studied technology in Britain for 5 years added: In accordance with my Islamic convictions I deem defending the Islamic Revolution and its achievements one of my main duties. Referring to the fact that British fascist police and jailers had been instructed by the British home office to subject us to psychological torture, he added: We, the 57 student members of the Islamic association who are condemned to expulsion, contrary to the empty claim of the British authorities in no way had the right to defend ourselves in court. But we never gave the British the satisfaction of appealing against our sentences. We thereby comdemned and rejected the competence and the predetermined verdicts of the made-to-order British courts.

This sister and these brothers, while chanting Khomeyni, om Imam and being showered with flowers as a gesture of welcome by the brother guards, left the airport in the midst of a vast crowd and joined the ranks of another assembly of brothers and sisters who had waited for hours outside the airport in an orderly manner. The crowd was composed of young and old, men and women, clergymen and students and others. The vast crowd of welcomers, chanting such slogans as the Muslim students are the manifestation of our faith; Khomeyni, Khomeyni, is our speaking Koran! And death to the British fascist police!, left the airport at 0130.

We would like to remind you that last month the British fascist police arrested 72 of our Muslim brother and sister members of the Islamic Association of Students, after orderly demonstrations in protest against U.S. imperialism opposite the U.S. embassy in London. These brothers and sisters, who were charged merely with defending the Islamic Revolution and Imam Khomeyni and professing hostility to the United States, were finally condemned by the made-to-order British courts and expelled.

CSO: 4906

NEW LAR DAM AGREEMENT CRITICIZED

Paris NAME-YE RUZ in Persian 11 Aug 80 p 12

[Text] Iran has agreed to pay a $500 million price increase to a group of Italian, German, Japanese and English companies for the completion of the Lar Dam project. In the view of economic experts this decision is a sign of renewal of developmental activities in Iran through foreign companies.

The new contract was signed in Tehran with a company affiliated with the Fiat corporation. Work on the Lar dam has remained almost at a standstill since the revolution's victory. Last spring foreign companies threatened that in the case of a failure to reach an agreement with the Iranian government they would drop the projects. This project, which began in 1974, will end in another two years. It is one of the limited number of projects in which members of the Pahlavi family did not receive a commission from foreign contractors for hits completion.

Simultaneously with the signing of this contract it was announced in Tehran that the Iranian government is prepared to enter into discussions with the main offices of those German companies whose branches were nationalized in Iran, regarding their future management. These two decisions are transformations in the economic policy of Iranian revolutionary authorities who in the past were opposed to any form of cooperation with western companies. The new dam is supposed to supply additional drinking water for thirsty Tehran, districts of which were without water for hours this summer. The Iranian Plan and Budget Organization undertook responsibility for the success of the recent negotiations. Officials of this organization expressed hope that other foreign companies whose cooperation would be useful to the Iranian economy and which had not cooperated with corrupt agents of the Pahlavis in the past would be able to continue their activities in Iran.

9597
CSO: 4906

ISLAM HELD UNCOMPROMISING AGAINST FOREIGN 'INHIBITIONS'

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 26 Aug 80 p 3

[Article by Kalim Siddiqui: "A New Phase in Islamic History"]

[Text]

The world pretends that the dynamism of the Islamic movement has taken it by surprise. The first reaction of the detractors of Islam, even before they try to understand us, is to give Islam a bad name. Hence, the string of emotional adjectives - resurgent, emergent, militant designed to evoke fear. Islam, as Muslims know, is none of these things. Islam is always the same - the truth as ordained by Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala. Islam is not a movement by the choice of the Muslims. Islam came as a movement and has always been a movement. It is incontrovertibly linked with man's movement and progress. For centuries this movement was propelled by a succession of prophets in many parts of the world. As many as 124,000 prophets bore the message. The message, its *method* and its model were completed by the last of all prophets - Muhammad, upon whom be peace. Since Muhammad, the Islamic movement has always struggled to emulate him and his message in order to achieve the same result - the establishment of the Islamic State and the Islamic civilisation. Only recently have some in the Islamic movement deviated from the direct and unambiguous message and the *method* of Islam. The result has been a 'subservient Islam', welcome and acceptable to our detractors. The link between the message, its *method* and the result has been dramatically re-established by the Islamic Revolution in Iran.

Islamic Iran has given a new edge to the Islamic movement, but no more. Iran has given us nothing new. If the leadership in Iran is transparently selfless,

self-effacing and totally uncompromising it is only because that is the Sunnah of the Prophet; if the Islamic movement in Iran has a worldview free from secular inhibitions, it is only because that is the Sunnah of the Prophet; if Iran is determined to uproot all influences of alien values and culture, it is only because the Qur'an insists on it; if Iran is determined to eliminate capitalism and all traces of exploitation of the weak, it is only because Allah demands it; if Iran defies 'power' many times its nominal size, it is only because Allah is an active participant in the Islamic movement and He is the only superpower, or any power, recognised by the Islamic movement ..... In a sense, there is nothing new.

But in a very real sense there is much that we must take stock of. Perhaps the most important of all lessons we have to learn is that a geographical national identity is the very antithesis of Islam. All forms of nationalism must be eliminated from the Muslim consciousness at all levels. It is nonsense to suggest, as many 'independence' movements have done, that nationalism is essential for Statism. Islam itself is a sufficient identity and has its own view of State. The secular State has no place in Islam and Muslims do not need it. It follows, therefore, that all the post-colonial States and their regimes and political systems have little more than a transient legitimacy. The Islamic movement itself is a seamless garment without the familiar majority/minority distinctions. Muslims living in Canada and the United States, Europe and other areas are as much parts of the *Ummah* as those living in the heartland of Islam. The US and European wings of the movement in Iran have clearly demonstrated the role and power of the small 'expetriat' cells of the movement. Each local Islamic movement is part of a global Islamic movement. All parts of the Islamic movement must mobilise their resources and commit them to the defence of the leading exposed edge, at present in Iran. As and when similar stage is reached in other areas, the Islamic movement must concentrate its resources there.

In the case of Iran, unfortunately, even the voice of the Islamic movement was not heard clearly enough. While Muslims everywhere felt a close identity with the Revolution, their feelings found little open expression. Those who felt their interests threatened managed to manipulate the media. They were, as always, helped by the western media in distorting the image of the Revolution. They are still trying to contain the Revolution in Iran by having it branded as 'Shi'a' and by searching for 'conditions peculiar to Iran'. But the Islamic movement has absorbed the Revolution at all levels. The Muslim masses now know the essential conditions for an Islamic movement and State. They will not be deceived

[illegible] such prefixes as 'Islamic democracy,' 'Islamic socialism' and 'Islamic nationalism.' They will demand and they will get movements that break free of these inhibitions and legacies of the colonial era.

Muslim history has now entered a new phase. The seemingly relentless speed of our decline has been arrested, if not as yet reversed. The post-colonial nightmare is coming to an end. There is a new sense of destiny, direction and purpose. But the processes of recovery are going to be as painful as the processes of decline and defeat have been. There are no easy options. History extracts its pound of flesh in flesh and blood. While our recovery need not be at the cost of any other people, evidence suggests that we will not be allowed a smooth run. The experience of Iran since the Revolution is a case in point. Many among us will play the game of the external powers. Many of the post-colonial regimes will oppose the Islamic movement at every step. Many will put restrictions on even such small efforts as this journal.

In this situation we must keep a cool head. The tempers within the House of Islam must be kept within the bounds of Islam. The Prophet (upon whom be peace) never lost temper against his opponents. He was kind even to his enemies. In recent years many 'Islamic' journals and journalists have become intemperate in their language and presentation. They appear to have been influenced by the style of the 'fringe group' politics in western democracies. We in the Islamic movement must be very clear about who's who and what is what. We must state our views in plain and simple language. But we must never become abusive towards anyone - be it the Saudi regime or the White House or others with whom we shall have more than one occasion to differ. But we must consistently, relentlessly and fearlessly expose the contradictions and hypocrisies of the modern civilisation and all its conceptual, philosophical and structural supports.

In the last two years Imam Khomeini's speeches have sketched out a new worldview for the Muslims and the Islamic movement. His style may appear to be old but his message has originality and freshness long missing from the Muslim political arena. He has decisively closed the era of apologetics, and yet his modesty at the hour of supreme achievement is a lesson in personal behaviour which few in all history can equal. The relevance of the Imam's message is the greatest to those of us who have acquired western education and absorbed western lifestyles and even culture and outlook. One basic characteristic of western education is that it makes the individual arrogant and egocentric. Witness the fresh graduate at the convocation. He walks on a cushion of intellectual air

(To be continued)

CSO: 49.10

UAE CLAIMS OWNERSHIP OF THREE GULF ISLANDS

Paris NAME-YE RUZ in Persian 25 Aug 80 p 3

[Text] Correspondents have reported that the United Arab Emirates Foreign Minister has protested Iran's continued "occupation" of three islands in the Persian Gulf to the Secretary General of the United Nations. It must be remembered that these three islands, known as Abu Musa and the greater and lesser Tombs, are located near the Straits of Hormoz and were taken over by Iranian forces in 1971 after British forces departed from the Persian Gulf.

Rashid 'Abdollah, in answer to a letter sent this past May or June to the Secretary General by Qotbzadeh, Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said that the UAE hopes that the problem of these three islands can be solved and settled through normal channels and that provocative acts can be avoided.

He called on the new government of Iran to solve the problems arising from the expansionist policies of the former shah's regime and to return these three islands to the UAE.

In conclusion, with repeated emphasis on the UAE's attachment to these three islands, Iran was called upon to take part in serious bilateral talks in order to demonstrate its sincerity in desiring good relations with its neighbors, and in order, through this process, by transferring the islands to their original owners, to put an end to this problem.

9310
CSO: 4906

BRIEFS

FIRST SAHARAN AMBASSADOR--The first ambassador of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic has been appointed to the Islamic Republic of Iran. [GF101930 Tehran Domestic Television Service in Persian (no date or time given)]

KHUZESTAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS--The Khuzestan Department of Mines and Industry has reported the approval of the following projects for the period 23 August-5 September 1980: A unit producing cement blocks with a capacity of 216,000 blocks per annum; a cardboard box factory with a capacity of 450 tons per annum; a mosaic tile factory with a capacity of 200,000 sq meters per year. The projects will cost 336,440,000 rials and employ 82 persons. [GF101930 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 10 Sep 80]

CSO: 4906

CONSEQUENCES OF DEFENSE BUDGET CUTS OUTLINED BY AIR FORCE CHIEF

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jul 80 pp 1, 2

[Article by the military editor of HA'ARETZ: "Air Force Chief Protests: Israeli Pilots Are Flying Fewer Hours than in the Arab Forces"; "Jordan a Serious Threat; Iraq Has Placed MIG-23's on its Border with Jordan; Problems in Tel-Milhata"]

[Text] In the wake of reductions in the defense budget, severe reductions have taken place in the Air Force, including flight hours for the fighting force. At present, Israeli Air Force pilots fly fewer hours than American pilots or pilots of many European air forces. For the first time, a number of Arab pilots are flying their fighter planes more than our pilots. The commander of the Air Force, Major General David Ivri, discussed this in a meeting with military correspondents in connection with Air Force Day.

With respect to Arab air forces, he said that Jordan has become a more serious threat because of new arms it has acquired which are aimed at vital targets in Israel. He revealed that the Iraqis have placed MIG 23's in the middle of their border with Jordan as well as a new control system in this area.

Major-General Ivri said that if it turns out that this affects the fitness of our pilots or the security of the Air Force, it will be necessary to give back flight hours to some of the pilots. This will, however, be at the expense of other areas. The budget cuts will also affect purchase plans. It is already clear that in the future, we will buy fewer F-18's than we had originally thought.

Problems in Tel-Milhata

A large sum was cut, he said, from the portion of the 1980 budget designated for the building of the third airport in the Negev at Tel-Milhata. At the moment, construction on site has not yet begun because of legal problems with the Bedouins. If the delay is a long one, the airport will not be ready by 1983. "It is a mistake to think that the cut in this

area is economical. It is a budgetary savings but a waste from another point of view because the equipment will be stored outside and is likely to be damaged. The cost in the end will be greater."

In his opinion, a difficult phase can be expected when the Sinai air fields are evacuated. The new fields which are being built by the Americans are smaller, and, therefore, the third field at Tel-Milhata will be needed. There will be thousands of tons of equipment, and there is not enough storage space for all of it. It will cost a great deal to build new warehouses.

In answer to a question about accidents in the Air Force, he confirmed that this year, there was an increase in the number of training accidents as compared to last year which was the best in 16 years. What characterizes this year's accidents is that many of them are related to weather rather than to technical problems. The Air Force has established a special team to study this problem and new courses are being offered.

U.S.-Egypt Cooperation

With regard to changes in the Arab air forces, he said that we ought to look carefully at the strategic cooperation between the United States and Egypt. "I say this from a positive point of view as well. For example, there could be a possibility for Israel to join in this arrangement such as offering maintenance service to Egypt's air force."

Concerning the Jordanian Air Force, he said that it is becoming a serious threat because of their recent acquisition of 14 batteries of improved Hawk missiles the majority of which have already been made operational, and because of their acquisition of French Mirage F-1's. France plans
rm them with the most advanced "Magique" air missiles, and, in addi-
, will supply the Jordanians with [? word unknown] bombs and tra-
ory exploding bombs.

The Jordanians are setting up three new air fields, two of which are almost completed. One of them, Jaffar, is across from the Plains in the Negev. The second, Azrak, is across from the Dead Sea. They have also established a control system developed in America and a radar checking system which counts units from everywhere.

The Jordanian Air Force is at an advanced level, and its planes are 3-7 minutes flight from vital strategic targets in Israel. The strength of Jordan's air defense capability eliminates the argument of their non-participation in a war with Israel. "These developments necessitate that the Israeli Air Force be capable of a swift response against Jordan."

MIG-23 on the Jordanian Border

He said that the Iraqis are developing an air field base near the border with Jordan. A control and command system has been established there and

brand new MIG-23's set up. The Iraqis are also about to receive the Mirage F-1 from the French, and a new and powerful MIG-24 helicopter from the Russians.

The Syrians made great strides by getting MIG-25 planes last year which are already in place in the field. They have also acquired a very large quantity of N.M. missiles, three times as many as they had in the Yom Kippur War.

9348
CSO: 4805

FUEL SITUATION REVIEWED BY ENERGY MINISTER

Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 15 Jul 80 p 3

[Article by DAVAR editor in the Knesset: "Modai: Israel is Being Strict about Stockpiling Fuel"]

[Text] The Minister of Energy and Infrastructure announced yesterday in the Knesset that in the area of liquid fuel, Israe' will be strict about guarding the strategic supplies which exist within Israel's borders. The supplies are at a level such that a government resolution is required so that we do not allow the level to be lower than that which existed many years ago.

In an investigation of the activities of his department, the minister said that the planning and policy sections have completed their plans regarding what Israel would do if, for political, economic or other reasons, it were not to receive its full supply of fuel from outside of Israel. One of the means would involve activating the emergency law, similar to the emergency security law. The minister said that this subject would be raised and confirmed during this session.

Minister Modai said that as early as 1978, Israel reduced its dependency on Iranian oil by diversifying its sources and thus assured itself of alternate markets when the Iranian revolution took place. At present, Israel gets about 30 percent of its imported fuel from "spot" markets, but, in addition, has been able to attain acceptable purchase levels. The minister revealed that in the previous fiscal year, Israel's average purchase price did not exceed 24 dollars per barrel, and most of the deals were successful.

"In 1979, expenditures for fuel amounted to 1.5 billion dollars. This year, they approached 2.5 billion dollars. We have reached the point of spending 8.5 percent of our GNP on fuel, and this is an international record. This year we are likely to exceed the 10 percent mark," the minister said.

Modai reviewed Israeli accomplishments in the realm of utilization of solar energy and the setting up of solar pools for producing electricity, an approach which has gained economic respectability in the world. Plans have been started to produce electricity by means of a solar pool that would produce about 5 megawatts of electricity if its technical/economic advantages can be proved. He also noted that more than 400,000 solar hot water heaters have been installed in Israel for heating water and pools, and that in the next 2 years that number will be doubled.

Harish: Soviet Military Trouble

MK Michael Harish (Alignment) said during a debate about the Energy Department that the USSR is changing from being an exporter to an importer of oil. Due to the restrictions on foreign currency, the fuel shortage is likely to bring about political processes or even military intervention by the USSR in the Gulf states and in Iran.

MK Harish says that he is doubtful about the stability of the fuel supply from Egypt and Mexico. In his opinion, this is likely to become no less serious a problem, in the long run, than the economic problem.

MK Avtavi (NRP) said that we must continue to set up reservoirs in case of emergency. At one time, the United States promised to establish a fuel reservoir, but this promise has not yet been carried out. He advised not to raise fuel prices every month or two but, rather, three times a year. It is necessary that we conserve energy by greater use of solar hot water heaters. We need to make sure that the electric company is performing efficiently in order to reduce their expenses. We cannot afford to arrive at a situation where some of the population has to spend 20 percent of its income on electricity.

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EXPORTS INCREASE IN FIRST HALF OF YEAR

Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 16 Jul 80 p 8

[Article: "Exports Increase by 30 Percent During January to June"]

[Text] Net exports of goods, calculated in current prices in dollars, amounted to 438 million dollars in June of this year. Of that, 413 million dollars consisted of industrial exports and 25 million in agricultural exports. In comparison with June of last year, in which exports totaled 338 million dollars, there was an increase in June of this year of 30 percent. The net value of exports, excluding diamonds, ships and planes, seasonally adjusted, rose in June by 23 percent in contrast to May of this year. This data was presented by the Central Bureau of Statistics and by the Department of Industry, Commerce and Tourism.

During the first half of the year, net exports of goods totaled 2.65 billion dollars as compared to 2.09 billion dollars in the same period last year, an increase of 27 percent. Industrial exports, excluding diamonds, rose by 33 percent, diamond exports by 22 percent and agricultural exports by 15 percent.

Seasonally adjusted data show that the average monthly value of the net exports, apart from diamonds, ships and planes, was 315 million dollars during the second quarter of the year; this was a 3 percent increase over the monthly level in the last quarter and a 9 percent increase over last year's final quarter.

Retreat in the Second Quarter

Industrial exports (excluding diamonds) in the first half of the year totaled 1.48 billion dollars as compared to 1.11 billion dollars in the same period last year, an increase of 33 percent. This increase reflects growth in all the major industrial sectors: chemicals, rubber and plastic, and mining of nonmetallic minerals, 55 percent; textiles, clothing and leather, 46 percent; wood, paper, printing and the like, 20 percent; metal, machines and electronics, 20 percent; food, beverages and tobacco, 17 percent.

Seasonally adjusted data point out that in the second quarter of this year, industrial exports, excluding diamonds, amounted to a monthly average of 264 million dollars, a level which is slightly lower than in the previous quarter, but 12 percent higher compared to the monthly average for the last quarter of last year.

Export of polished diamonds (net) in the first half of the year totaled 723 million dollars compared to 593 million dollars during the same period last year, an increase of 22 percent. Seasonally adjusted data show that in the first half of the year, the monthly average of exports of diamonds (in dollars) rose by 9 percent as compared to the second half of 1979.

Agricultural exports (including citrus fruits) in the first half of the year totaled 528 million dollars, as compared to 373 million dollars in the same period last year--an increase of 15 percent. Exports of citrus fruits totaled 213 million dollars from January to June of this year as compared to 196 million dollars in the corresponding period last year--an increase of 9 percent. The rest of the agricultural exports totaled 215 million dollars in the first half of the year as compared to 177 million dollars in the same period last year--a rise of 21 percent.

9348
CSO: 4805

REAL DROP OF 20 PERCENT IN 1979 INVESTMENTS REPORTED

Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 21 Jul 80 p 8

[Article by the Economics editor of DAVAR: "Real Drop of 20 Percent in 1979 Investments"]

[Text] The number of investments approved in 1979 by the Center for Investments dropped more than 20 percent in real terms. Investments totaled 27.2 billion Israeli pounds as compared to 16.8 billion pounds in 1978 and 9.4 billion in 1977. According to the report from the Center for Investments, 1,531 permits were issued in 1979 as compared to 1,270 in 1978. Overall investment in Israeli currency last year amounted to 25 billion pounds as compared to 15.1 billion in 1978. Investment in foreign currency in 1979 was 111.1 million dollars as compared to 96.5 million dollars in 1978.

There was an increase in the number of permits for investment in industrial enterprises. The majority of these were permits to expand facilities. In the past year, 1,173 permits were issued by the Center for Investments for industrial enterprises as compared to 885 in 1978. In 1979, investments in industry were approved for the sum of 21.4 billion pounds in 1978. Out of that, investments in foreign currency amounted to 32.1 million dollars as compared to 14.7 million dollars in 1978.

A Drop of 50 Percent in the Hotel Industry

There was a drop of more than 50 percent in investments in the hotel industry last year. Twenty-nine permits were issued for a total of 847 million pounds. Out of that, there were 7.66 millions in dollars. This is in contrast to 60 permits for a total of 1.44 billion pounds in 1978 with 9.4 million dollars of that in foreign currency.

In property last year, 148 investments were approved for a total of 2.46 billion pounds, including 16.8 million dollars in foreign currency. This is in comparison with 138 investment plans for a total of 1.16 billion dollars approved in 1978. In the preceding year, investment in foreign currency in property was about 22.2 million dollars.

In agriculture, 16 investment plans totaling 87 million dollars were approved in 1979 as compared to 9 plans totaling 34.2 million dollars in 1978.

In other areas, the Center for Investments approved 160 plans totaling 2.4 billion pounds. The foreign currency component totaled 66.5 million dollars. In 1978, 173 plans were approved totaling 2.6 billion pounds. In that year, the foreign currency component amounted to 48.6 million dollars.

145 New Businesses

A look at the breakdown of permits in the area of industry shows that in 1979, permits were issued for the establishment of 145 new businesses for a total of 1.5 billion pounds, as compared to 124 new businesses for a total of 1.3 billion pounds in 1978. In addition, 272 permits were issued last year for the expansion of businesses at a sum of 8.69 billion pounds as compared to 221 permits for hotels at an investment of 892 million pounds [as published] in 1978.

As for hotels, last year permits were issued to build only 5 new hotels at an investment of 128.9 million pounds as compared to 18 permits for hotels at an investment of 892 million pounds in 1978.

Americans and Canadians in the Lead

In looking at the breakdown of permits for the establishment of new enterprises in which foreign money is involved, it is clear that the Americans and Canadians are in first place. Permits were issued for 52 investment plans for their participation, with the overall investment at 2.3 billion pounds. Britain and South Africa come next. Investors in those countries were issued 67 permits for a total investment of 555.6 million pounds.

Twenty investment programs involving investors from Switzerland, Lichtenstein and Luxembourg were approved last year for an overall investment of 235.5 million pounds. German investors were involved in 9 investment programs totaling 163.4 million pounds. French investors were involved in 5 programs amounting to 38.3 million pounds. Investors from Italy were involved in 5 programs totaling 3.9 million pounds.

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SYRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY DISSIDENTS ATTACK PARTY CONGRESS

Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 27 Jun 80 p 11

[Article: "Syrian Communist Party Wing Led by Yusuf and Qaysiyah Considers the Party Congress To Be Phony and Schismatic"]

[Text] The wing of the Syrian Communist Party led by Mr Murad Yusuf and Mr Nayif Qaysiyah has responded to the recent congress held by the party. In a statement distributed in Beirut and signed by "representatives of the organizations of the Syrian Communist Party," this wing of the party described the 5th congress as "a dangerous schismatic action undertaken by the opportunist right-wing leadership of the party." The congress is regarded as "phony, schismatic and not representative of the party," and its decisions are described as "not binding on Syrian communists."

It should be mentioned that Yusuf and Qaysiyah are two members of the Syrian Communist Party's Politburo who were responsible party officials in two important regions. The 5th congress announced that they had been expelled.

The statement issued by the "representatives of the party organizations" supported "the positions adopted by the eight comrades, members of the Central Committee, who had addressed a letter to the Politburo, dated 26 November 1979. The letter contained basic and practical suggestions to restore party unity and hold the 5th congress on the basis of dogmatic principles. These party comrades had been entrusted with the responsibility of conducting the party's work at the present stage and with taking the necessary steps to achieve this in the best possible manner, in cooperation with the regional committees and party cadres."

The statement extolled "the importance of the existing relationships of cooperation between our country and the countries of the socialist bloc, led by our loyal friend and faithful ally, the Soviet Union." The statement also praised "the work being done to consolidate, develop, and expand these relations in all political, economic and military domains."

In another statement addressed to all members of the Communist Party, the "representatives of the organizations of the Syrian Communist Party" accused the leadership of the party, headed by Mr Khalid Bakdash, of "violating basic documents of the party, including the important party document which was unanimously approved by the Central Committee in January 1978."

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CSO: 4802

COMMUNIST PARTY SUPPORTS REGIME AGAINST MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD

Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 21 Jun 80 p 9

[Article: "Support for the 'National Identity' of the Regime, in Spite of 'Negative Economic Phenomena'"]

[Text] Mr Danyal Ni'mah, member of the Politburo of the Syrian Communist Party, held a press conference at Hotel Beau Rivage yesterday. He talked about the agenda of the party's 5th congress, which was "unanimously ratified," and expressed "complete support" for President Hafiz al-Assad against "the Moslem Brotherhood and the imperialist-Zionist onslaught." He also alluded to "the dangerous negative economic phenomena" in Syria.

He said that the communists, when they are given weapons, are prepared to defend Syria's independence. He accused Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Iraq of supporting the Moslem Brotherhood.

The report which Ni'mah read said that "Syria is playing an increasingly important role in the battle against imperialism, the Camp David scheme, and Sadat's treachery."

The report considered it "necessary to strengthen the permanent relations of friendship with the Soviet Union, because it is our firm, loyal, true friend."

Confusion

The report distinguished between "the national identity of the regime, which has become clear to a great extent, and its domestic, internal identity, which is still confused. The confusion is attributable to negative developments in the social and economic situation, especially the dreadfully widespread and deep-rooted growth and development of the parasitic bourgeois phenomenon. This is the thing which constitutes the principal source of rampant corruption and bribery. The reason is that the strongest of these parasitic bourgeois groups, the bourgeois merchants, have direct ties with imperialist, capitalist monopolies and are striving to bind the entire economy of the country to the interests of these monopolies."

The report goes on to say: "The activities of the parasitic bourgeoisie, which cooperates and engages in conspiracies with bureaucratic bourgeoisie, have led to the appearance of a large number of millionaires." The report refers to "the growth of capitalist exploitation in agriculture and its effects on the peasant laboring class."

The report then notes that Syria's economic and social policy has "led to dangerous negative phenomena which have had a cruel impact on the standard of living of the masses as well as on the country's political mood and general situation. These negative effects have been exploited by bands of people who engage in conspiracies, sabotage and killing, and who are supported from abroad. It is only natural that the party's position has been, and remains, that of combatting these negative phenomena."

The Key Issue

The report then says that "the key issue is the fact that national and class conflicts are flaring up more and more in Syria." The report stresses "the importance of democracy, its orientation regarding the classes, and the importance of expanding and intensifying the role of the Progressive National Front, especially with regard to the workers, peasants and revolutionary intellectuals."

The report points out that "the policy of the Syrian Communist Party is strongly committed to these social and economic issues. It does not hesitate to support the position taken against the bands of conspirators, and to support the general policies expressed by President Hafiz al-Assad in his latest speech."

The report then emphasized the following points:

1. Affirmation of the soundness of the party's past policy, wisdom and farsightedness, and affirmation of the fact that the masses have come to understand this policy.

2. Affirmation of Syria's hostile role against imperialism in the area; the importance of the role which has been played, and will continue to be played, by the Syrian Communist Party; and the necessity to strengthen cooperation between it and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party within the framework of the Progressive National Front.

3. Affirmation of the international orientation of the party and its deep-rooted friendship with the glorious party of Lenin, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

4. Criticism of shortcomings in work done by the party, including the performance of leadership councils and Central Committee bureaus; and the need for appropriate self-criticism of shortcomings on the part of this or that party official and this or that council.

5. Unanimous condemnation of Murad Yusuf and his party behavior, and unanimous agreement concerning decisions made by the Central Committee, especially those concerning Murad Yusuf and his supporters.

6. Demonstration of resolute determination to put an end to circumstances which have existed as a result of crises in the party, gradually closing party ranks, and rallying closer around the party leadership, the Central Committee, the Politburo and the party's secretary general, Comrade Khalid Bakdash.

The discussion period brought up the question of cooperation on various levels between the Communist Party and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and the necessity to improve such cooperation.

It should be mentioned that Mr Murad Yusuf recently split off from the party, and that his supporters are Mr Nayif Qaysiyah and some members of the Central Committee.

The Lebanese Communist Party

After Ni'mah finished reading the report, he answered questions by reporters, and received help in this regard from Mr Nabih Rushaydat and Mr Ya'qub Karu, who are among the leaders of the party. He was asked why there were no representatives from the Lebanese progressive parties and the Lebanese Communist Party at the press conference. He was also asked whether or not these parties had been invited to the press conference, and whether or not there were differences with them. He answered: "Everybody was invited. Actually, I believe that this question should be directed to the Lebanese Communist Party." Ni'mah continued: "A representative has been sent to the press conference from the newspaper AL-NIDA' (the organ of the Lebanese Communist Party). Is he not here? Yes, he is here."

[Question] It has been noticed that, among the greetings received by your congress, there was no greeting sent by the Lebanese Communist Party. Why is this?

[Answer] The fact that the Lebanese Communist Party did not send a greeting to our congress is something which concerns only the Lebanese Communist Party. We strive to have good relations with all of the parties.

[Question] Do you have any differences with the Lebanese Communist Party?

[Answer] The purpose of this press conference is to present the results of the work done by the 5th congress [of the Syrian Communist Party]. However, with regard to this question of yours, it could be that there are such differences, but we usually bring them up at meetings usually held by the Arab communist parties.

[Question] Will there be a meeting of the Arab communist parties?

[Answer] I do not know.

[Question] What is your response to the Moslem Brotherhood's attack on your party?

[Answer] We call for action on a broader mobilization of national forces to confront the Moslem Brotherhood. We are demonstrating complete support for the resolute position against the Moslem Brotherhood. We call for more democracy and for taking economic and social measures which are more progressive. We are trying to clarify objectives. It is a national and class struggle, and it is being pictured as a sectarian struggle. The first action of the members of the Moslem Brotherhood was to burn down consumer establishments.

[Question] In your opinion, what is the difference between the Iraqi regime and the Syrian regime?

[Answer] The difference is in their attitude toward imperialism. In Syria, there is ever-increasing hostility toward imperialism and colonialism, whereas in Iraq we see that the opposite is true.

[Question] Who is giving aid to the Moslem Brotherhood organization?

[Answer] Sabotage activity is not conducted by the Moslem Brotherhood alone. This organization is only the shock troops which we see on the surface. There is confirmed information that members of the Moslem Brotherhood are being trained in Jordan and that they receive aid from Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

[Question] What is your position with regard to other leftist political forces in Syria?

[Answer] We consider that the principal and basic enemy is the black forces of reaction. As for other leftist forces, such as those of Jamal al-Atasi and the League of Communist Action, we feel that their work and orientation, in the final analysis, are grain for the mills of the forces of reaction. In fact, we have said this in our dialogues with them. Many times we have demanded that they ease their campaign of violence against us, and direct it against the forces of reaction. But we consider that their work and orientation are, if not collusive, then certainly shortsighted.

[Question] What is your position with regard to their joining the "National Front" in Syria?

[Answer] Our position will be determined on the basis of what position they take with regard to the front.

[Question] What is your position with regard to the regime in Lebanon?

[Answer] I believe that we have stated our support of the need to reach a national accord in Lebanon, and to affirm Lebanon's sovereignty and the fact that Lebanon is an Arab nation.

[Question] How do you feel about the people's militias in Syria?

[Answer] Distribution of weapons has started in some areas. When we are given weapons, we will use them to defend Syria's independence against the onslaught of the Zionist imperialists.

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CSO: 4802

PLANNING MINISTER INTERVIEWED IN ATHENS

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 20 Jun 80 p 19

[Interview with Dr Salim Yasin, Syrian minister of planning by Muhammad Mustafa Mahmud, in Athens; date not given]

[Text] The Syrian minister of planning, Dr Salim Yasin, tells AL-QABAS: "Economic cooperation between the Arabs and Europe is based on an inadequate concept of our potential." Dr Salim Yasin defines the premises of the forthcoming 1981-1986 5-year plan in light of previous experience and within a framework of long-range development guidelines affecting the remainder of the 20th century.

In Minister Yasin's interview with AL-QABAS in Athens, where he led the Syrian delegation to meetings of the Joint Greek-Syrian Committee for Economic Cooperation, he clarified the goals of current economic activity in Syria in all fields.

He said that right now, the Fifth Five-Year Plan is being prepared, since four 5-year plans have already been implemented. Each one of these 5-year plans had its own particular goals, strategy, regulations and procedures.

He added that work on the Fifth Five-Year Plan began with an analysis of Syria's economic development from the year 1961 until today. Particular emphasis in this analysis was on a thorough study of the current economic situation, that is, of the Fourth Five-Year Plan which comes to an end at the end of 1980. Ideas began to jell for the next 5-year plan in light of this analysis and study of the current situation. This was done within the framework of outlines for long-range development for the nineties, all the way up to the year 2000.

It could be said that there are a number of premises for the Fifth Five-Year Plan which have been defined on the collective level and on the individual level. There are also other premises which right now are in the process of being defined. These premises include:

1. Stressing increase in production through increasing productivity by making optimum use of the projects, installations and other facilities which are currently being utilized. This also applies to projects which have been started and not yet completed. They too should be put into operation.

2. Stressing the growth of agriculture and development of the rural areas.

3. Stressing the development of services in order to meet the needs of growing economic activity, on the one hand, and the needs of Syria's citizens, on the other.

4. Stressing broader application of the concept of comprehensive planning. This is planning which includes economic feasibility studies for all projects, and studies of their direct and indirect effects not only on the sectors of the projects themselves, but also on other sectors of the national economy. This also includes defining the requirements of each project in terms of human, material and other resources, and securing them at the right time and at the appropriate place. This is something which could overcome economic bottlenecks and avert anticipated difficulties in the implementation and operation of such projects.

Minister Yasin went on to say that this, of course, requires the utilization of modern planning methods which began to be used in the Fourth Five-Year Plan. Likewise, it requires the existence of integral partial plans which must be interlocked with the general overall plan. These include, for example, the labor force plan, foreign trade plan, money transfer plan, etc. Right now these plans are being prepared along with the 5-year plan.

The Status of Cooperation Between Syria and Greece

[Question] What is the status of cooperation between Syria and Greece?

[Answer] There is economic and technical cooperation between Syria and Greece. This cooperation takes place within the framework of a number of agreements, some of which have been signed and ratified. Others are still in the planning stage.

There is a joint Greek-Syrian Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation which meets periodically. Its next meeting is expected to take place in Damascus in the third quarter of this year. It will be chaired by the Greek minister of coordination and the Syrian minister of planning.

The agenda for this committee's forthcoming meeting will include a draft agreement concerning maritime transport, a juridical draft agreement, a draft agreement regulating maritime labor, and other such draft agreements between the two countries.

Assessment of Arab-European Cooperation

[Question] How do you assess economic cooperation between the Arabs and the Europeans?

[Answer] In my opinion, the principal benefit from [contacts with Europe] is that we become familiar with the point of view of Europe's intellectuals with regard to problems which concern the Arabs, and the causes of these problems. We also hope to learn what methods they feel can be clearly defined and utilized to deal with these problems in the framework of Arab-European cooperation. There is no doubt that a great many benefits could be derived from Arab-European cooperation, if it were based on principles of mutual interest and benefit for both parties.

There was cooperation in the past, during numerous periods of time, but it was on conflicting bases. The appropriate thing is that such cooperation be based on realistic premises and an objective knowledgeable perception of the reality of the issues which confront each of the two regions. A healthy diagnosis should be made of the causes of problems and how to deal with them.

For example, one of the opinions which has surfaced is that the Arab world faces a problem of food supply. Europe is able to satisfy the needs of the Arab world in this regard. This view is based on computing current increasing demand and current supply, and projecting these calculations into the future.

My belief is that an opinion such as this is based on inadequate computation. Computing both current and future supply of foodstuffs in the Arab world should take place not only on the basis of the current situation and its projection into the future. On the contrary, one should compute these things on the basis of calculating the Arab world's agricultural potential, especially the potential which so far has not been utilized. One should also compute how to make optimum use of modern technology in agriculture in the Arab world. The costs of doing this should be estimated and compared with the actual costs of importing foodstuffs from the European countries. In light of all this, and in the framework of the theory of relative costs in foreign trade, a report should be rendered about whether or not it is beneficial to continue to import foodstuffs from Europe or whether it would be better to develop, modernize, and utilize the Arab world's own agricultural capabilities. [end of answer]

Doctor Yasin concluded the interview by saying that there is another opinion which has surfaced concerning the export of technology to the Arab world, and which technology would be beneficial for it. This is in addition to importing machines and equipment, learning how to operate and maintain them, etc. This opinion favors effort to create advanced industry based on the Arab world's own technological capability. The reason is that this approach would mean designing and developing machines and equipment which would be better adapted to the economic and social realities of the Arab world. Consequently, they would be more productive.

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OIL MINISTER DISCUSSES SYRIAN ENERGY RESOURCES

Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic 6 Jul 80 p 34

[Interview with 'Abd al-Jabbar al-Dahhak, the Syrian minister of oil and natural resources, by Randah Taqiy al-Din; date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] What is the situation in Syria today with regard to energy resources?

[Answer] Syria is still a young country as far as the field of energy resources is concerned. Our energy production is limited, and does not exceed 10 million tons [of oil] per year. However, we have had our own particular experience which differs from that of the other Arab countries. This is because in Syria the exploitation of oil takes place on the basis of geological survey operations and refining undertaken by Syrian experts using Arab labor.

We refine part of our oil in Syria, because our oil is of the heavy type. It is necessary for us to blend it with light-weight oil in the two refineries at Homs and Baniyas. Also, we have agreements for importing gasoline and mazut.

[Question] Where do you buy your light crude oil from, and in what quantities do you buy it?

[Answer] We sometimes buy light crude oil for our blending processes. For example, the production capacity of the refinery at Homs is 5.2 million tons a year. The oil it refines is 50 percent Syrian and 50 percent Iraqi. This means that we buy about 2.75 million tons of Iraqi oil per year. As for the refinery at Baniyas, it is still in the experimental stage, and its maximum production capacity is 6 million tons per year. The oil it refines is 20 percent Syrian, and 80 percent Iraqi and sometimes Saudi oil. This refinery sometimes refines oil for some European plants.

[Question] Do the OAPEC countries lower their oil prices for you?

[Answer] We buy their oil at official OAPEC prices.

Gas Projects

[Question] It is said that Syria has asked (?Abikurb), a French firm, to help in the extraction of gas in Syria. What are your expectations in this regard?

[Answer] As far as the production of gas is concerned, we are still in the initial stages. We have an estimated 11 billion cubic meters of gas associated with oil. And we have reached an agreement with the French firm (?Antribu) to build a plant in the city of al-Hasakah, in northern Syria, to liquefy this gas. This project will be completed 2 years from now. We also have natural gas, and it comes in two types. There is the gas in the gas caps of the oil wells. We want to keep it there to maintain the pressure level necessary for the extraction of oil. As long as we utilize these oil wells, we do not want to extract this gas. We have also discovered some wells which contain only natural gas. This is the gas which we were thinking of extracting in cooperation with the World Bank, which was going to finance the initial stages of this project, including making an estimate of the gas reserves and a study of its economic potential. In initial studies, experts have concluded that there are about 50 billion cubic meters of gas. We are making every effort to study and assess these reserves in preparation for processing and utilizing the gas in the production of electricity and in other fields.

[Question] What do you anticipate in the way of reserves?

[Answer] There are 90 billion cubic meters. It is believed that 50 billion cubic meters are pure gas, about 30 billion cubic meters are in gas caps, and about 10 or 11 billion cubic meters of gas [associated with oil]. Of course, there are not big quantities. But in view of the importance of all sources of energy, we are devoting a great deal of attention to this subject.

Limited Aid

[Question] Is the financial aid which Syria received for oil and gas exploration from the OAPEC countries and the World Bank sufficient?

[Answer] Up till now the amount of aid received has been limited. At the present time, we are relying on concluding contracts with foreign companies to prospect for oil in Syrian territory, on condition that the Syrian Government will not suffer any financial losses if these companies do not find oil. If they do find oil, they can recover the costs by selling 40 percent of the oil which is discovered, at world market prices. But the rest of the oil, that is, 60 percent of it, goes to Syria.

As far as OAPEC is concerned, it has a Petroleum Services Co, with headquarters in Libya, which does drilling for oil. But we have our own geophysical expertise in this field. Even foreign companies that do oil

exploration in Syria draw on this local expertise. For this reason we have so far not asked for any services from Arab countries, bearing in mind that the Petroleum Services Co is able to offer its services throughout the Arab world.

[Question] Are there any joint projects with Arab countries in OAPEC in the field of oil exploration in Syria?

[Answer] We are working together with them in the field of searching for alternative sources of energy. There are national energy committees which are interested in questions of solar energy, wind power, water power and the generation of electricity to conserve energy resources. Initial studies have also been made concerning the setting up of a petrochemical industries complex in Syria. However, a final decision has not yet been made about this. But talks are going on with investment companies in the Arab countries concerning the building of industries in the Arab countries. We could benefit from them in the field of fertilizer production. Relevant negotiations are going on right now, and we hope that they will result in a formula by means of which we could make use of the potential of the Arab countries.

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